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MONKEY BUSINESS

Vlad Lodoaba

First-year Febs Craig Wilson, MacLeod Andrews, Eric Hoest, Andrew Herzik and Joseph Rhoades celebrate the supposed onset of warm weather by swinging from the branches of a tree behind Pearsons Thursday afternoon.

Co-ed blocks OK'd

By Elizabeth Campbell
Staff Writer

Just three weeks after the adoption of a revised Room Draw policy, the Room Draw Committee has approved additional changes regarding the gender balance requirement in blocks.

According to the new system, the gender balance rule — which required that a co-ed block have a 60 percent to 40 percent gender ratio — will no longer apply to blocks, and students will be able to determine the gender composition themselves. The discussion of the gender balance requirement materialized at the Room Draw information session last week, where several students asked questions regarding its status in blocks.

The Committee considered

See Co-ed, page 4

Students safe in Madrid

By Caroline Stauffer
News Editor

All 107 Middlebury College graduate and undergraduate students studying in Spain were accounted for by noon U.S. Eastern Standard time last Thursday 10 hours after the bombing of the Atoche railway station in Madrid.

Middlebury staff in Madrid made sure every student in Spain was contacted via pre-arranged phone trees. In the vicinity of the station — including the Middlebury Madrid offices — cell phones were unreliable until a backup system was brought in. The office contacted students via text messages, which worked when calls did not. Difficulty contacting two graduate students who were out of the country and students with cell phones turned off also hindered the count.

The office in Madrid was especially concerned about the safety of the 16 students studying at the University Carlos III, where Middlebury students commute from Madrid to Getafe using the same Atoche railway station that was targeted by terrorists. A meeting for these students had been scheduled in Getafe for the morning of March 11, but was cancelled due to a strike at the University — a cancellation the staff was not aware of at the time of the bombings.

Director of the School in Spain Kim Griffin was in Seville at the time of the bombing but flew back to Madrid as soon as she could.

After all students had been accounted for, Griffin sent an e-mail to the entire Middlebury community in Spain with several suggestions. She urged students to avoid traveling by train or going to train stations whenever possible. When using any public transportation, she recommended that students beware of unattended baggage. "If you feel uncomfortable about traveling … don't travel," she said. She asked students to leave their cell phones on and keep in touch with family.

Director of Off Campus Study David Macey reported that the College is currently searching for alternative means of transportation for students

See Madrid, page 3

Council shuts doors for ZOO debate

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

For the second straight week, Community Council entered executive session at its Monday meeting to discuss the fate of the social house Zeta Theta Phi (ZOO). It remains unclear whether the Council has constructed and approved its recommendation for ZOO to be presented to President McCardell, who makes all final decisions regarding the status of social houses.

Four ZOO members were on hand for the meeting to "field questions about how ZOO ended up in its current state and how [members are] planning to change things" if the house is granted continuing status, according to ZOO President Leigh Taylor '05. "What 'continuing status' entails [is] the issue being deliberated," said Taylor. "The members of both ZOO and Community Council were quite candid, which I think will lead to the best possible outcome for everyone involved."

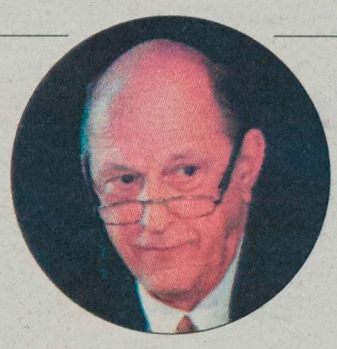
Taylor explained that ZOO's membership "placed the priority of a fall pledge class above relocation of ZOO to a smaller house," adding that the meeting went "really well" and that she thinks the house has a "good chance" of being allowed to recruit pledges next fall.

Taylor also acknowledged that she thinks Community Council is "handling the situation fairly."

SGA Press Secretary Andrew Carnabuci '06 and Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan '04.5 declined to comment on the results of the meeting. According to Carnabuci, the Council wishes to keep further social house review deliberation confidential until President McCardell has reviewed and confirmed all recommendations.

At a March 1 meeting, when a Community Council subcommittee presented the results of its annual social house review, members discussed several options for ZOO in light of the house's self-imposed sanction.

The subcommittee recommended that ZOO not receive a house for next year, and suggested that the organization be granted club status, giving it a fluid membership and eliminating the pledge process.



Four college leaders to step down

By Daniel Phillips
News Editor

President John McCardell, who announced in November his intention to step down from Middlebury College's top job on July 1, is not the only high-level administrator planning an exit in the near future.

Vice President for College Advancement Sally Holland, Secretary of the College Eric Davis and Executive Vice President for Facilities Planning Dave Ginevan will all soon leave the administrative ranks. Their departures herald a crucial transitional phase for the institution. As Old Chapel prepares for this significant exodus, Ginevan, Holland and McCardell seem to agree with Davis' take — this step is "a period of continuity and change."

"Any one individual stepping down should never affect the College's ability to run smoothly," Holland said. Holland, who recently announced her resignation for family-related reasons, acknowledges that it is not uncommon for an advancement executive's resignation to coincide with the president's at academic institutions. McCardell pointed out that Holland's position is "totally dependent on mine," and saw her decision to step down as "not a surprising one."

Former Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld has been selected by McCardell to serve as special assistant to the president for College Advancement next year and to take over Holland's duties until the new president can appoint a permanent replacement. Holland ultimately sees her successor as the new president's partner in advancement of the College for future student generations.

"The College needs someone who will commit to eight to 10 years of an-

See Administration, page 4

MIDDBRIEFS

BY VIRGINIA HARPER AND BEN SALKOWE

ED admissions stats

The Office of Admissions recently released the following figures on the early acceptances to the Class of 2008:

Early Decision I: 512 applications received — 181 admitted for September matriculation, 19 admitted for February matriculation

Early Decision II: 248 applications — 65 admitted for September matriculation, 6 admitted for February matriculation

Admissions officials are now entering the final stage of weighing regular decision applicants. Decisions will be mailed during the College's spring recess on March 26.

The most noticeable change overall, said Dean of Enrollment Planning Mike Schoenfeld — who is currently heading the Admissions Department in Director John Hanson's absence — is the drop in applications, mostly from international students. "Our international applicant pool was going up every year until it planed off after 9/11. Ten percent of each class is international, and we had no problem getting 60 very qualified international students. But international applications went from about 900 to 700," said Schoenfeld.

He added that this accounted for about half of the drop in overall applications, but noted that the same was happening at several other NESCAC schools.

"It is pretty easy to imagine the challenges of getting visas, the concern with costs, homeland security and safety that international parents may have," said Schoenfeld, who added that in the past eight years, the Emma Willard House has seen six record-breaking years in student applications.

Banner Update Goes Smoothly

The College's Banner system was upgraded from version five to six last weekend. Although the upgrade was released mid-2003, teams representing all areas of campus had to spend months testing new releases before actual upgrades could occur about six months later.

Minerva Project Manager Carrie Rampp explained the process in an all-campus e-mail prior to the update. "Each functional team, in a test environment, has attempted to replicate all critical processes to assure they are working properly prior to the upgrade. This requires hundreds of hours of effort, all leading up to a sign-off date for the upgrade," she said.

Banner was unavailable during the upgrade, and then kept offline while further tests were conducted. Taking the Banner system offline meant BannerWeb, the piece of the system with which students interact, was temporarily inaccessible. In preparation for the downtime, Student Employment Coordinator Charlene Bergland urged all students to submit their employment hours early last week.

These changes are mainly in the Banner system used by the College — students access only BannerWeb and will not notice any significant changes.

The upgrade went quickly and smoothly, most of the process being completed Friday and the system returning online 12 hours sooner than expected. Rampp called the update "our most successful upgrade to date…due to the incredible efforts of our core team."

CORRECTIONS

The Middlebury Campus reported last week in the article "Davis to leave Old Chapel" that Director of Business Services Tom Corbin is retiring when in fact it is Treasurer Emeritus and Executive Vice President of Facilities Management David Ginevan who will be leaving at the end of the year. Corbin currently has no plans to leave the College

The caption of front page photo story "Hockey Hero" misnamed the Middlebury hockey player pictured, identifying him as Kevin Cooper '04 when it was Patrick Nugent '05.

The photo caption for the article "J-Term crusaders pay out of pockets" reported that the creators of the savejterm.com website were in attendance at the March 8 faculty meeting when they were not.

Brian Goldberg, author of the Opinions piece "Can hip-hop rival the canon?" is Class of '05, not '04.

A triathelete of 3.5 years, Middlebury alum Lindsay Simpson '00, whose story was told in the SportsBriefs column, currently resides in Waterbury, Vt., not Maine.

The Campus regrets these errors.

SGA defeats rush reform

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

On Sunday evening the Student Government Association (SGA) put to rest the widely disputed bill that would have allowed first-year students to rush social houses in their second semester. With a vote of 13 opposed and three in favor of the bill, SGA representatives discussed the legislation's merits, ultimately arguing against the bill as an effective solution to the College's housing crunch.

Sponsored by SGA President Sam Rodriguez '04 and Press Secretary Andrew Carnabuci '06, the bill was drafted as a solution to social houses' uphill battle to fill their housing quotas, as a means of revamping social life on campus and as an attempt to reduce the barrier set between first-years and upperclassmen. Arguments against the bill included its effectiveness filling quotas, imposition on first-years to make a significant time commitment during their adjustment period, lack of input from first-years and reluctance of the College administration to sign such a piece of legislation

"If all we're looking for is to fill houses, then this is the wrong approach," remarked Sophomore Senator Katherin Schwesinger. "We need to stand back and think, how else can beds be filled?" Junior Senator Jimmy Hickey agreed that the bill may not be the solution to housing quotas and requested a copy of past year's housing figures, including quotas for different social houses, in order to make an informed argument regarding the present housing situation.

Several SGA representatives stressed the paternalistic argument, questioning first-years' preparedness to rush and make the necessary time commitment. "Freshmen might rush because they just had weeks of fun during J-Term at the social houses. It is very tempting to rush coming off those positive experiences, but considering the increased workload freshmen face in the spring, it would probably be more detrimental to them than helpful," said Hickey. Inter-House Council Senator Mike Vilarello '05.5 continued, "The summer between freshman and sophomore year is a time for freshmen, both regular and Febs, to separate from Middlebury and reflect on their experiences. There is probably a reason why it precedes rush, as freshmen can consider whether they truly are ready to make the necessary commitment."

Hickey cast doubt on the benefits of the bill to social houses. "Yes, we're trying to tackle housing quotas," he said, "but at the same time, is this bill, as it is written, in the best interest of the exact people it is trying to help? Take ZOO, for instance. Freshmen generally have less experience, and are more prone to act in ways that could make a house lose its privileges."

Albert Bitici

The bill allowing first years to rush social houses in their second semester was voted down 3 - 13 last Sunday at the SGA's weekly meeting.

Vilarello added, "This bill could also put social houses in [an uncomfortable] position. Some could still choose not to include freshmen, and they would simply look bad."

I'm very disappointed in this outcome.
— SGA President Sam Rodriguez

Senators Keith Williams '07 and Michael Ferrier '07.5 noted that not many first-years have expressed interest in a first year rush or in responding to SGA surveys. "If freshmen were really dying to rush, they probably would have responded," said Student Co-Chair of Community Council Erin Sullivan '04.5.

While SGA representatives largely reported negative feedback from their constituents regarding the bill, many recognized the need for another approach to tackle the problems highlighted by Rodriguez and Carnabuci. Several noted the social benefits derived from the bill, including a revamped social life, promotion of non-party oriented social house activities and reduced dependence on off-campus parties as social options. "Social houses are beneficial for students and are suffering under the current administration," remarked Cook Senator Siddhartha Rao '04. "It is important to have a social life on campus, and by increasing the importance of social houses, it reduces the dangers of off-campus parties." Senior senator Mike Bolger added, "Especially because the number of people living off campus will be minimal next year, not much will be happening there, and something must take its place."

Additionally, Williams cited conversations with members of social houses, who stated that parties constitute a mere 10 percent of social house activities. "But most of all, social house members are worried that in five years, their house may not be there," said Williams.

"I'm very disappointed with this outcome," said Rodriguez. Despite the SGA's vote, Rodriguez continues to gather input on his bill from other organizations. The Inter-House Council discussed the piece of legislation on Tuesday and subsequent to its approval or opposition, the bill will either be brought before Community Council or developed into a general program for social house restructuring.

Brainerd acquires Palmer House

By Dan Shea
Staff Writer

Middlebury College is preparing to convert Palmer House, currently the home of Zeta Theta Phi (ZOO), into a Brainerd Commons dormitory.

By incorporating Palmer House, which is comprised of suites, into Brainerd Commons, seniors looking to remain in Brainerd will be provided with more palatable housing options. As Laura Smith '04, governance chair of the Brainerd Commons Council, said, "Brainerd is the only commons that has no suites [to offer upperclassmen]. This would be a more attractive alternative."

Yet Smith, a member of the Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) social house, noted that while the loss of ZOO's house does "not necessarily affect the social house system as a whole, something does need to be changed about the system." Brainerd's acquisition of Palmer House underlines a certain tension between the commons system, which seeks to create communities through dormitory clusters, and the social house system, the heir of Middlebury's traditional fraternity system.

Mary Claire Evans '06, who lives in Brainerd Commons, said she would like to live in Palmer House as a senior. Evans explained that she currently feels she is "at a disadvantage" for room draw, as residents of other commons are given priority for the suites within their commons. Evans said she "would like to see commons status be a factor in housing," adding that "[her commons] is a community — a smaller group."

Brainerd Commons Residential Advisor Jason Vrooman '03 said he is optimistic that the acquisition of Palmer House will improve Brainerd's housing situation.

"One of the goals of the new room draw system is to equalize housing among classes for each commons. The conversion of Palmer House to Brainerd senior housing will help in that respect," he said.

Courtesy/Kathleen Fleury

The March 11 train bombings in sparked demonstrations across Spain where 107 students are studying abroad.

Madrid attacks rekindle vigilance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

traveling to class in Getafe and to various internships in the city.

Griffin also responded to various student inquiries pertaining to participation in the many demonstrations around the country in her e-mail, especially in the Puerta del Sol in Madrid. "For the most part, these demonstrations tend to be quite peaceful and a true lesson in solidarity and the democratic expression of people who want peace," she said. She emphasized that participation in such demonstrations is an individual decision, but urged that students choosing to become involved take caution and quickly move away from any sign of disturbance.

According to Macey, "Students wanted to go to demonstrations, join with the people of Madrid and show solidarity."

Macey reported few parental phone calls to the Office of Off-Campus-Study due to staff in Spain urging students to call home immediately and in part due to the acceptance of the changing world situation.

"Attacks are part of our lives," Macey said. "We don't live in a risk-free environment any more. The only thing we can do to prepare is to have our staff ready to respond."

"Students and parents of students have become adjusted to the new environment," Macey said. "There was a time when if a bomb went off in southern China and a student was studying in India, we would hear from their parents. This is no longer the case."

The College has never evacuated students from a school abroad nor had students involved in an international terror attack, although there have been several close calls, most recently in Spain.

Middlebury students studying in Australia had visited Bali several weeks before the bombings of two nightclubs on the Indonesian island in Oct. 2002. In that same month, Middlebury students had also visited a theater in Moscow that was attacked by Chechan suicide bombers.

In addition to accepting the high-risk nature of the world, Macey also views anti-Americanism as "ubiquitous" and something of which students studying abroad in any location should be aware.

However, "Anti-Americanism is generally against the government and administration, not against individual people," Macey said. "If handled well, students can separate themselves from their government." Macey views study abroad as "a good political education" in this sense.

Considering the potential for anti-American sentiment to increase in Europe, following the attacks on Spain, Macey emphasized the College's policy of discouraging students from speaking English or "acting American." He believes that Middlebury students have an advantage over other American students studying in Europe in that they "have a better command of their language, which is the best form of protection."

Ultimately, Macey does not believe the attacks will impact the decision of Middlebury students to study abroad.

Webmail 'on the fritz' again

By Andrea Gissing
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Over Winter Break, Middlebury began using Microsoft Outlook Exchange 2000 as its main e-mail program. As reported in the Jan. 15 edition of *The Middlebury Campus*, Webmail and the e-mail servers were upgraded to improve the overall stability of the web interface. In recent weeks, however, Webmail outages have frustrated students trying to access their e-mail. "For people like me who check their e-mail five times a day, you definitely notice the black outs and they are annoying," said Ashley Timidaiski '07.

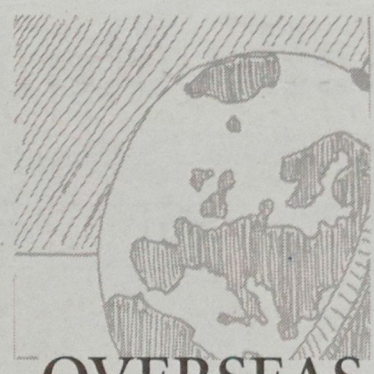
Many students on campus are able to get around the outages by using Outlook on their own computers. This program has several advantages over its web-based counterpart. Most importantly, when problems occur, it bypasses the Arcticcat server — the server that is the front-end interface, what appears when you type in "mail.middlebury.edu" — and connects the user directly to Panther, the server for students' mail, or Bengal, for faculty and staff mail. "I like using Outlook because it doesn't crash," said Tim Levitt '06. "There are a lot of great features that you don't get with webmail, such as being able to check peoples' information by clicking on their name and e-mail addresses."

Unfortunately for Middlebury students studying abroad, this avenue of escape isn't an option and Webmail outages are all the more noticeable. "[The Webmail blackouts] have indeed been a source of continuing irritation," said Nicolas Emery '05 currently studying in Italy. "E-mail is the way I stay in touch with family and friends in America and throughout the world, and I have often noticed over the past months that it simply does not work. While this would be a relatively minor problem at Midd, the issue is compounded when, for example, I leave my apartment in the rain to go write an important e-mail at the internet café — where I'm paying, of course — only to find that webmail is on the fritz once again."

Stephen Swank '05.5 agreed saying, "The abroad students rely heavily on the Webmail service to coordinate trips and plan meetings." Swank, who is in France this semester, pointed out that the new software is more user friendly, but the added functions take extra time to load. For students in countries with slower computers this is problematic since they have to pay for their time online.

Cynthia Hernandez '05 and Petar Mitrevski '07 — both of whom work at the Information and Technology Service (ITS) helpdesk — are quick to point out that the system is new. "It's bound to have problems," said Hernandez, referring again to the outages. Both reported hearing increased numbers of calls from students asking, "Why doesn't it work for me?"

Systems Programmer and Analyst Mark Pyfrom believes that virus-infected computers caused the recent outages. Computers logged onto the server tried to communicate with themselves, "and you'd see several thousand connections made as the one user would be re-looped," explained Pyfrom. ITS solved the problem by activating a connection filter, which prevents computers from making connections with themselves. "We shouldn't have to do this," Pyfrom clarified. "This is a temporary fix that will be around for a number of months." This "temporary fix" has ended the series of outages that at one point happened as frequently as 20 times every week. "After we implemented the 'don't-talk-to-ourselves filter,'" continued Pyfrom, "it hasn't died once." A stable webmail system will be a relief for students at home and abroad. "The coming month brings Room Draw, class selection and 700 project proposals, so communication is more important than ever, and things are much more time-sensitive than they might be otherwise." said Laura Eckelman '05, currently studying in the United Kingdom.



OVERSEAS BRIEFING

BY KATHLEEN FLEURY

MADRID, March 15 — Last night at 3 a.m. in my apartment a few meters away from the famous Paseo del Prado, I could not sleep. Outside my window, among the waves of circling helicopters, a noise grew and grew, penetrating the streets near the historical center of the city. Thousands of people banging pots and screaming were gathered in the Puerta del Sol protesting the lack of clear information about the group responsible for the massacre that took place on four commuter trains in Madrid this past Thursday.

Needless to say, my experience abroad has changed drastically. On Thursday morning I woke up to the sound of sirens. After the frenzy of phone calls exchanged among the Middlebury students here — some of whom travel daily through Atocha, one of the targeted train stations in the bombings — I watched the news and began to feel an array of emotions ranging from profound sadness to unfocused anger. And for the first time since the very beginning of my year abroad, I felt very far away from home.

The images that flooded the TV channels were of bloodied faces, dead bodies lying on the train tracks and train cars almost unrecognizable. Worse than the images of the dead were those of the living, the fearful faces of family and friends that frantically searched the hospitals hoping to find loved ones. Slowly the numbers grew to 200 dead and 1,500 wounded, and the country went into a palpable shock.

As an American in Madrid, I could not help but be reminded of the atrocity of Sept. 11, 2001, exactly two and a half years ago to the day. The confusion and sense of violation that rippled across the country and the world after that tragic event seemed to settle deeply on Thursday in the cobblestone plazas and winding streets of this western European capital. My personal experience abroad shifted its focus from the likes of Cervantes, Rioja wine and my struggle with idiomatic expressions, to terrorism, security and a persistent sense of fear that I am trying to ignore.

Experiencing this most recent terrorist act, the largest in Spain's history, makes me realize how truly incomprehensible terrorism is — it is without order and without logic. As terrorists randomly plant bombs, they symbolically plant fear by the very randomness of their acts, painfully reminding us of the fragility of life. It could have been me, we think. If my bus had arrived 10 minutes earlier, if I hadn't slept through my alarm, if there hadn't been a strike in my university… it could have been me.

The people of Madrid, embodied in the truly inspiring gathering of two million people on Friday night, have shown their steadfast resistance to the hatred expressed by terrorist organizations worldwide. Nevertheless, Madrid has changed and so has my experience here. A new sense of vulnerability exists for both the city and me, a sense that was superficially quelled after Sept. 11, but that resurfaced last Thursday not only showing that terrorism is not best fought by war, but also that our generation will have to continually search to find a peaceful resolution to an increasingly violent problem.

Belle, Roush awarded Watson fellowships

File Photo/Vlad Lodoaba

Crystal Belle will spend next year studying hip-hop in Ghana, Switzerland, Jamaica and Brazil.

By Chesley Thurber
Associate Editor

Continuing a College streak of outstanding Watson success, Middlebury seniors Crystal Belle and Will Roush have both been awarded fellowships of $22,000 to conduct independent research across the globe.

Belle, whose passion for hip-hop is widely known through her frequent poetry readings and her column in *The Middlebury Campus*, will be studying that subject in a project entitled "The Evolution of Hip-Hop in Urban Communities," which will take her to Ghana, Switzerland, Jamaica and Brazil. Roush will continue his studies of environmental science through his project, "Envisioning a Changing Alpine Environment through Repeat Photography," and will travel to Canada, New Zealand and Norway.

According to Director of Scholarships and Fellowships Arlinda Wickland, the Watson committee is looking above all for projects that reflect an intense personal interest that has continually played an important role in the applicant's life. "It should be something that means the world to you," said Belle in a meeting for future applicants held Tuesday. "I'm a writer and my writing is very much influenced by hip-hop culture."

Roush is so enraptured in his study of the environment that he may be unaware of his award. According to Wickland, Roush is on a hiking trip with his family and has no access to phone or e-mail.

Competition for the prestigious fellowships began last semester when nearly 50 Middlebury students submitted written proposals. But for many, including Belle, the project started even earlier. Belle said she had started designing her proposal early in the summer. Candidates are then interviewed by a selection committee at the College before four are endorsed as nominees to the national Watson Foundation. From about 190 of such nominations from liberal arts colleges across the country, up to 60 are awarded the fellowships.

Application procedures are not always traditional. In her final interview with a Watson foundation representative, Belle was asked to give a live performance of some of her spoken-word poetry.

Despite the fellowship's extreme competitiveness, Middlebury nominees have been remarkably successful in winning fellowships with traditionally two or three recipients each year. Wickland attributes the success to the large number of applicants each year for the four nominations Middlebury can submit as well as the experience of the members of the selection committee.

Belle cited knowing herself and confidence as the keys to her success. "I think I was successful because I was honest," she also said she learned a lot about herself through the application process. "You really learn what you love," she said.

Students granted co-ed blocks

Continued from page 1

the gender balance requirement at length and, after consultation with the commons deans and the commons administration, decided that the rule should no longer be applicable in the Room Draw process due to its inefficiency and irrelevance. Like the point system of the new room draw policy, the removal of the gender requirement will make Room Draw less complicated and will grant students more freedom to decide where they wish to live.

"There was a consensus that the rule wasn't relevant to Room Draw and to residential life. No one knew where it had come from," said Dean of Cook Commons and Committee Chair David Edleson. "We agreed that gender balance greatly complicated block draw."

Because of increasing complications, inflexibility and general discontent among students, room draw and residential life at Middlebury have undergone much scrutiny and revision in the last few years. The confusion surrounding block draw peaked when LaForce Hall was opened for housing in 2002, generating the initial changes in Room Draw and the block situation. Eric Ambrette '04, a student representative on the Room Draw Committee, noted about the change in gender balance that "the issue came up when the question was brought to [the Committee's] attention about the size collapse of blocks. So far I do no know of any complaints about this issue and have only received positive feedback on it," he said.

While students decide the final proportion of males to females in each block, the Committee specified that it will not allow co-ed doubles at this point. Edleson sent out an e-mail to all students Monday to clarify this distinction, adding that it will still be possible for co-ed sinkmates to draw together in Forest.

In general, students are content with the removal of gender parity in blocks. "I think it's a much more reasonable idea because it allows for more flexible rooming situations and gives the students more freedom in making their decisions with rooming," said Jenna Boyle '06.5. "It makes a lot of sense — I don't understand why this hasn't always been the rule."

"Given that the students are adults and that social norms are no longer as strong as they may have been in the past," explained Edleson. "It was the right time to make the change."

Administration aims to preserve continuity amidst change

New president to decide how to restaff Old Chapel

Continued from page 1

other fundraising effort. I don't have the energy or stamina to lead another capital campaign," McCardell said in reference to his own resignation.

Citing the recent Bicentennial Campaign as an example, Davis predicts that shortly after the new president is appointed there will be a strategic planning exercise to review the College's goals, both new and accomplished.

A large fundraising campaign — to surely exceed the previous $200 million mark of the Bicentennial effort — will then be necessary to implement such goals and could take as long as two student generations.

"I knew I didn't want to remain in the administration during the majority of that period," Davis said, adding that he also wanted the political science department to know of his resignation early enough to amend their course schedule for the fall. Like McCardell, Davis has made plans to become a full-time faculty member by the 2005-2006 academic year.

Davis described how his assistance to the new president will be to guide him or her through College events. Since Davis has been associated with many major committees during his stay in Old Chapel, he will also help explain how academic and administrative issues should be handled when they come to the President's Office.

"Clearly there is a provision made for his duties," assured McCardell. "He'll still be doing them." But after Davis steps down, it is unclear whether the Secretary of the College position will continue. McCardell described Davis' administrative repertoire of editing the Handbook, coordinating overseas commencement and administrating *ex-officio* on the Educational Affairs Committee as duties that could ultimately all "be divided up under different titles and individuals."

"What happens to the Secretary of the College position is a decision the next president will have to make," Davis explained.

Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alison Byerly agreed with McCardell and Davis that "many jobs in the administration are built around the skills that a specific individual brings to the position, and will not be the same job if done by someone else."

With the majority of administrators remaining in Old Chapel next year, Davis said he doesn't "anticipate there will be a major change in the direction of the College over the next 10 years." The language of the position specification on the Presidential Search Committee's website reflects this as well, noted both Davis and McCardell.

When all is said and done, I hope people will say that we mostly got it right.

— College President John McCardell

Byerly concurred. "My own experience has been that there is a lot of fluidity in how issues are managed — we tend to approach things as a team and often a task is done by a particular individual not because it's in his or her job description, but because they're on hand when it needs to be done. So reallocating duties is less difficult than it might be within a more rigid structure," she said.

In Ginevan's case, McCardell pointed out that he "would have scheduled his retirement whether the president retired or not."

McCardell added that Ginevan planned to resign by December of this year even before he announced his own, calling their resignations "completely independent" of each other. He explained that Facilities Planning has already been planning for an orderly transition, noting "we have made provisions in every case for transitions in every office."

Schoenfeld similarly claimed that there is "not really much that connects the dots" in terms of the four resignations. But he said, "Dave's position is not as much of a challenge to fill," citing renovation of current facilities as the next phase in project planning now that the new library and Atwater projects are near completion.

Holland also wanted to announce her retirement far enough in advance so it wasn't related to the selection of a new president. "I need to take a break, but it is entirely personal."

Schoenfeld will be returning to a position he held 13 years ago under the director of development title, which is essentially what the advancement position is today, he explained. Schoenfeld said he held the job during the transitions into Timothy Light's and then to John McCardell's presidency.

The Office of Admissions had already made plans for Schoenfeld's departure as he was previously granted a semester's leave to do work at United World College. He also noted that he is accompanying McCardell on his farewell tour to visit alumni chapters around the country.

"When all is said and done, I hope people will say that we mostly got it right," McCardell said, recalling a passage from his inaugural speech.

Although the nation had the financial wind at its back during the 90s, McCardell said, "Show me an institution that took better advantage of those prevailing winds — there isn't one. There I am content to rest my case," he concluded.

Looking back at McCardell's administration, Holland recalled, "One aspect about him that makes him so special, is that he understands that it's always about Middlebury, and what we do [as administrators] is all about Middlebury, so it shouldn't matter if one of us leaves because it is always about the College."

Atwater dining primed to debut

By Thomas Drescher
News Editor

As the new Atwater dining hall nears completion and architects begin proposing plans to renovate Proctor Hall, dining at Middlebury will soon bear little resemblance to what it did just a few years ago.

The commons initiative envisions a separate dining hall for each commons. Ross Dining Hall, completed in 2002, was the first step in this process. As of next fall, Atwater will be the second commons to feature a new dining facility. Plans are also in the works for massive renovations to Proctor Hall that would effectively split the current dining hall into two separate facilities serving Brainerd and Wonnacott Commons.

Construction at the Atwater site is on schedule and the new dining hall should be open starting next fall, according to Project Manager for Facilities Planning Mark Gleason. For diners, Atwater will incorporate both innovative and familiar dining elements. The dining hall itself, with a capacity of 225, will be elliptical in shape, and will feature a seminar room, a lounge, a vegetated roof and an open display-type cooking setup reminiscent of Ross. The floor will be constructed of maple wood cut from nearby forests.

Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette noted that many of the facility's walls will be entirely glass, providing views of the surrounding landscape and the Town of Middlebury. There will also be a stairway cut through the middle of the building leading down to Weybridge Street. Biette said that service points and cooking equipment will be primarily out in the open and a greater effort will be made to fuse the service and dining areas. Unlike Ross's service area, Atwater's will feature a number of small tables located near the service points. Biette added that some cooking will take place outdoors next to a fireplace. "It will be a nice way to lure [students] into the dining room," he said.

Atwater will serve a hot breakfast followed by lunch and dinner. According to Biette, "There will be planned differences and similarities [between Atwater and the existing dining halls]. "We can certainly produce chicken parmesan anywhere! The similarities to Ross will be more apparent than the similarities to FIC and Proctor," he added. "Food will be cooked in front of you, and the 'magic wall of food' will be gone."

Atwater's menu, like its setup, will seem both familiar and very different to students. The new dining hall will feature a "pizza oven" similar to the Grille's, but Biette asserted that the new oven is much more versatile than the name "pizza oven" suggests. "I am looking to it as a 'hearth oven,'" said Biette. "I do not want to turn Middlebury College Dining Services into an all-you-can-eat pizza parlor. The oven will be used for hearth cooking. We will roast meats, vegetables, breads and any combination to come up with freshly cooked foods that tantalize the taste buds. It may even be a large sandwich area."

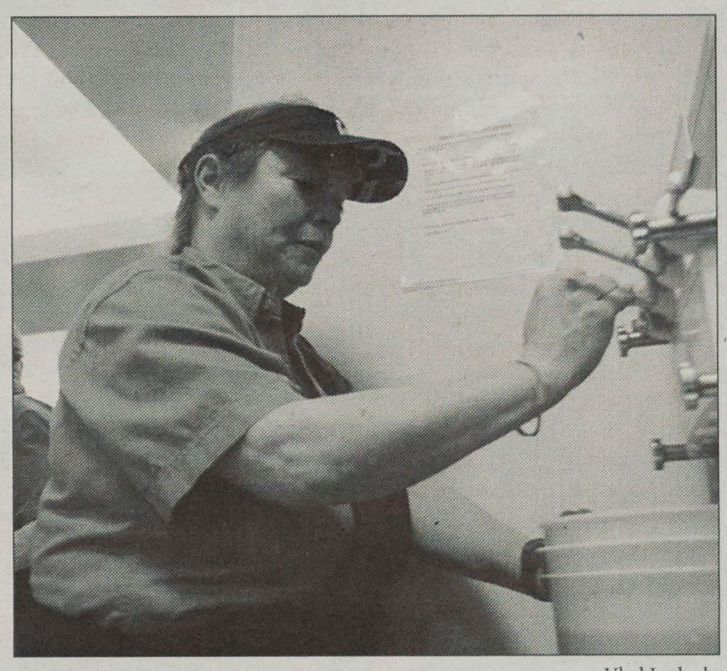
Biette added that he and the rest of Dining Services are "in the process of developing twists on old favorites and new items."

While the new Atwater dining hall is nearly completed, College officials are still only in the preliminary stages of developing a plan for Proctor. According to Gleason and Executive Vice President of Facilities Planning David Ginevan, six different architectural firms are drafting proposals for the Proctor project. The "winning" firm will present its proposal to the Board of Trustees, and following Trustee approval a permit must be obtained from the state and a general contractor for the project will be identified, explained Ginevan.

At this point, it is unclear whether or not Proctor will remain open for next year. If a proposal is approved, renovations will commence later in the year and Proctor will most likely be closed at least for fall semester, although Gleason pointed out that it is too early to estimate how long the project will take.

Some students have expressed concern that closing Proctor will force everyone living on the south side of campus to hike across College Street, but this should not be a serious issue, according to Gleason. "Given the benefits at the end of construction of two new dining halls, walking another 200 yards to Ross or further to Atwater should seem a very minor inconvenience," he said.

"Construction is always an inconvenience," Gleason noted. "It is the results afterward that make it all worthwhile."



Vlad Lodoaba

TOP: FIC is currently the most convenient dining hall for Atwaterians. MIDDLE: this view of Ross Dining Hall and its service and dining area will be similar to the new Atwater dining facilities to open next fall. BOTTIM: Cheryl Harrington services the soft serve machine in Proctor.

public safety log

MARCH 4 TO MARCH 14, 2004

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
3/11/04	9:39 p.m.	Vandalism	Vehicle	R lot	No Suspects
3/13/04	2:00 a.m.	Theft	Jacket	Prescott (ADP)	No Suspects
3/14/04	10:45 p.m.	Vandalism	Vending Machine	Hepburn	No Suspects
3/14/04	1:30 p.m. - 12:05 a.m.	Theft	Mail	McCullough Student Center	No Suspects
3/04/04 Occured: December	Unknown	Theft	Bike	Outside	No Suspects
3/2/04	12:00 a.m.	Theft	N/A	Off Campus	No Suspects

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY CAROLINE STAUFFER AND THOMAS DRESCHER

UCLA halts cadaver donations

The University of California at Los Angeles announced recently that it is suspending its cadaver donation program while authorities conduct an investigation into accusations of trafficking in body parts.

College officials have accused a university employee and his alleged accomplice of running a scheme to sell body parts involving hundreds of donated cadavers.

The employee, Henry G. Reid, was arrested Saturday and accused of grand theft. The other man, Ernest V. Nelson, has been accused of purchasing bodies and body parts from Mr. Reid and reselling them. According to Nelson's lawyer, Reid sold Nelson nearly 500 cadavers from the program over the past six years. Mr. Nelson cut up the bodies with an electric saw, packaged the parts and resold them.

A lawyer representing families who have filed the class-action claim against the cadaver program said they welcomed the university's decision to suspend it. Wittingly or unwittingly, UCLA had been a supplier to a nationwide black market in body parts, he added. The families had asked for a restraining order halting the program during the investigation.

University officials have apologized to family members of those who donated their bodies for research and teaching.

Source: *The New York Times*

Study: students underestimate drinking

A study at Duke University found that undergraduates drastically underestimate their alcohol consumption. When students were asked to pour what they perceived as a 12-ounce beer, they over-poured by 25 percent. They overpoured a single 1.25-ounce shot by 26 percent. Most drastically, the average perception of a mixed drink had 80 percent more alcohol than standard.

"Students don't know what a drink is — or even just the definition of a drink," said Aaron White, primary investigator of the study and assistant research professor in the department of psychiatry.

Women were more prone to overestimating alcohol consumption than men. White suspects that the problem is not Duke-specific.

Source: *The Chronicle, Duke University*

Coca-Cola sparks campus protests

After groups such as Columbia Solidarity and other human rights organizations accused Coca-Cola of being involved with the murders of eight union activists in the Latin American country of Columbia, they have spurred protests at several colleges and universities at which Coca-Cola has contracts around the country. Two colleges, Bard College in New York and Lake Forest College outside of Chicago, have canceled their exclusive Coca-Cola contracts, according to reports in the *Atlanta Business Chronicle.*

The company, however, denies all allegations of involvement with violence in Colombia.

"There is no basis for these protests," Kari Bjorhus, company spokeswoman, said. "Our behavior in Colombia is quite appropriate and quite ethical."

Source: *The University Daily Kansan*

localnews

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MEALS ON WHEELS
HELPING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO A HOT LUNCH

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JIM LOGAN BEGINS WORK AS INN'S EXECUTIVE CHEF

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AMERICAN FLATBREAD
SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM THE ROSS LINE

Meals on Wheels: more than just lunch

Well-balanced meals complement engaging conversation

By Lynn Gray
Staff Writer

May Chan

Katie Hawkins '06.5 visits the home of an elderly Middlebury resident to chat and deliver her lunch.

While the primary purpose of the Meals on Wheels program is to serve healthy mid-day meals to elderly individuals and disabled adults in need, the effects are far reaching. Three Middlebury students, Liz Campbell '06.5, Katie Hawkins '06.5 and Brittany Graham '05 volunteer with the Meals on Wheels program of Addison County.

Tracey Corbett, the volunteer coordinator for Addison County Meals on Wheels, explains the true significance of the program. "Our volunteers deliver a hot, nutritious meal at midday, but far more importantly, they provide a connection, sometimes the only connection, between our clients and the outside world," Corbett explained. Many elderly people in the area have no means of transporting themselves to community centers where they could unite with friends and engage in social activities.

This is why student volunteers see the simple act of communication as one of the most important elements of their service work with Meals on Wheels.

Hawkins enjoys talking with some of the more loquacious elderly women she visits. "There are a couple of ladies who are really so great. They tell me stories about themselves, about their lives, or ask about me and what's going on in my life," she said.

Campbell also enjoys getting to know the people she meets along her delivery routes. She is one of the key links for many people to the outside world.

She sums up her experience as a Meals on Wheels volunteer: "All in all, Meals on Wheels provides a great opportunity for me to get off campus one morning a week and to interact with Middlebury community members, especially its older residents who don't get into town very much."

Doe Dahm, an Americorps representative, is trying to capitalize on the success of all this meaningful interaction. She is heading up a new program called "Friendly Visitors." Dahm describes the program's title as indicative of its mission. She states, "Friendly visitors do just what their title suggests — they provide companionship to isolated elders and, less frequently, adults with disabilities." Friendly visitors do not just make house calls — they can also help those in need with grocery shopping and light house keeping.

Our volunteers provide a connection between our clients and the outside world.

Dahm described the key purpose of "Friendly Visitors" and Meals on Wheels as promoting and supporting "successful aging." This means, she explained, "the continuation of physical, mental and emotional growth," since growth is reliant on social interaction. Such a theory is often thought to be strictly applicable to the development and happiness of children. But "Friendly Visitors" seeks to prevent the damaging effects isolation has on people of advanced age. The "Friendly Visitors" program is just getting under way in Addison County, but is already successfully established in surrounding areas.

There is great evidence of the need for programs like Meals on Wheels and "Friendly Visitors" in the immediate Middlebury area. "In Addison County we serve about 2,850 meals per month. More than half are [distributed] in the Middlebury area," Corbett pointed out.

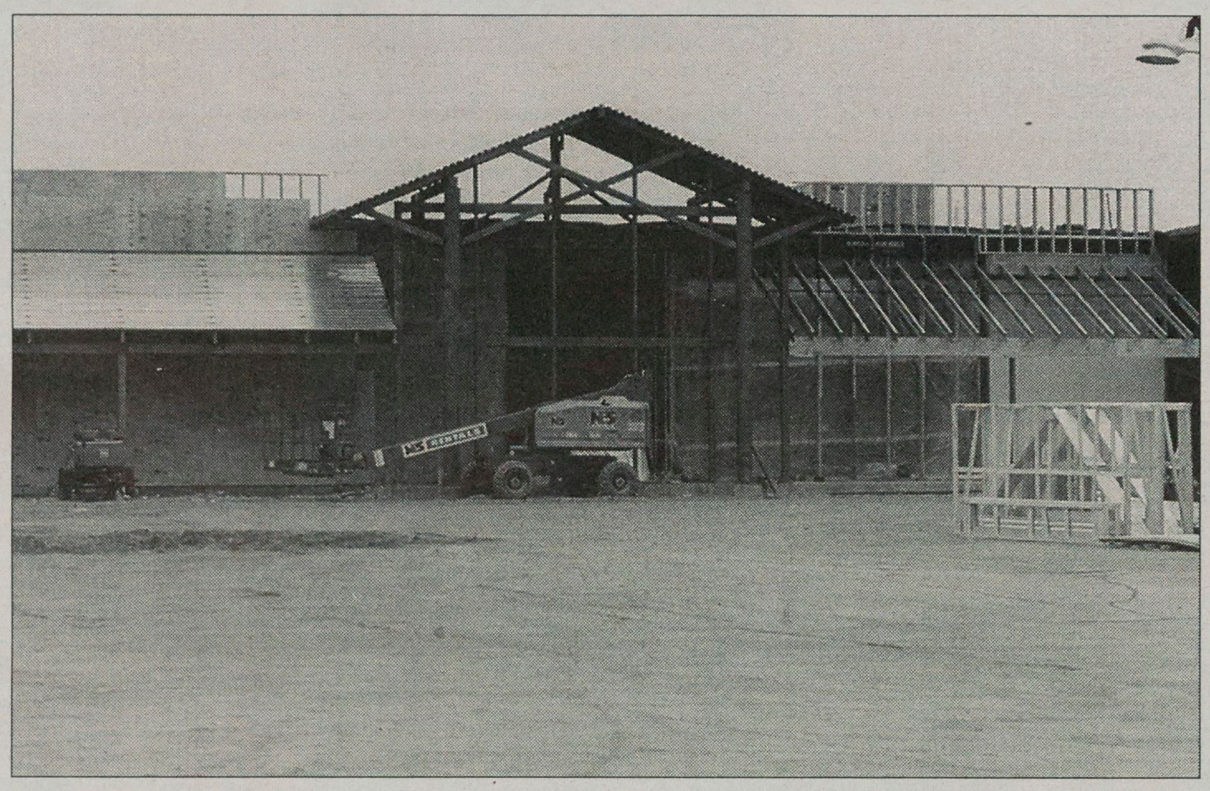
The need for this type of care can be seen as an important modern social issue. In an earlier era, many of the older people served by CVAA programs would have been cared for by nearby family members, explains Dahm.

Dahm says, "In Addison County, as in the rest of the country, many older people live far away from loved ones. They need caring community members to fill in the gaps and provide the support that their relatives and neighbors would have given in another time." Friendly visitors, including Middlebury students, have already begun to fill in those gaps.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Doe Dahm
Champlain Valley Agency on Aging
1-800-642-5119
ext. 1043
doe@cvaa.org

LAYING THE FOUNDATION



In the lot previously occupied by Ames, construction workers continue building while local residents debate whether to fill the space with a national chain store or a local co-op.

Albert Bitici

Fresh face adds flavor to Middlebury Inn's menu

Kelsey Rinehart
Senior Staff Writer

Campus **reporter Kelsey Rinehart interviews Jim Logan to see what is cooking at the Middlebury Inn, where he recently assumed the position of executive chef.**

Could you give a brief background of your career as a chef?

I hated most food when growing up, like most American kids. I traveled to Germany and saw the importance, the joy in all things that have to do with food. There was craft, quality and passion in their culture, with regards to food. That was my spark. Then I went to do training at the Culinary Institute of America in New York. After I graduated, I went to Tucson, Ariz., and worked as a pastry chef and baker at a private club. After a stint in Arizona, I went to Washington, D.C., and worked at a classic French hotel, a new American cuisine hotel-inn and the Chesapeake Fish House, all to glean skills and move towards the ultimate goal of becoming an executive chef. After four years in D.C., I came to Manchester-by-the-Sea in Cape Ann, Mass., to the Essex County Club, where I spent six years. I came north to Middlebury, to spend a year at the Swift House Inn as their chef. The last eight years prior to arriving at the Middlebury Inn, I taught at New England Culinary Institute at the Inn at Essex. I taught many, many classes there and still look back on my years there fondly.

When and how did you start at the Middlebury Inn?

I started at the Middlebury Inn at the end of August. I always loved the Inn's old-style beauty and central location in Middlebury. The Inn is a landmark in Middlebury, and I thought it should be known for quality food. I heard a rumor that a position was open and wrote a letter suggesting [my] interest.

Are you living in Vermont for first time? If so, what is your general impression of Middlebury and Vermont?

This is not my first time in Vermont. It is great being so close to home — Bristol — [but] it feels very new. It is like cooking for the people that you know, since they are part of your community. I like Vermont and I love New England! New England has a lot to offer, from the coast to the mountains, and has so much history, character and season, with fall foliage and the snow and the beauty of the summers. I have come to New England all my life to visit relatives and to be a tourist. We summered in Maine and fell in love with the cold water and fog and lobsters.

As a chef, have you become more familiar with Vermont and New England's culinary traditions? What new culinary opportunities does living in Vermont offer you? Are there any culinary disadvantages to working here?

The summer season is intense with a short growing season, but we do have almost all food items for a short time. The winter is long and although we try to keep the menu seasonal, I tire a little of what is available. The nice thing about Vermont is that you are so close to the farmers. They are your neighbors and patrons. You know where you are getting your products. I love the craft cheeses and other quality products that are now available in such diverse styles.

What are the most popular breakfasts/brunches and dinners ordered at the Middlebury Inn?

The most popular item for breakfast is our pancakes — sometimes it is hard to get them out fast enough. We do a great brunch that changes all the time. People love Joseph, the chef who creates an omelet for you with your favorite ingredients in the dining room. We always have an "action station" for brunch. For the evening meal, Potato Crusted Salmon filet with a Cider Sauce and Grilled Rib Eye Steak with Horseradish Mashed Potatoes and Dried Cranberry Bordelaise sell the most and are loved by all.

Have you introduced any new recipes to the Middlebury Inn? If so, how have they been received?

I brought thousands of recipes with me. The best change is that all is homemade now by a great staff. All the soups and breads and sauces are made by traditional methods. We make our own stocks, demi-glaces and Hollandaise sauces. The desserts are out of this world and if I lived in Middlebury I would come in for a night of coffee and dessert or wine and dessert. They are the best in Middlebury! Homemade Chocolate Chip and Sambucca Gelato and Bitter Orange Cake are things you will never find anywhere else and will remember for a lifetime.

Will you be cooking for any special dinners or major events in the next few months? If so, what will that entail?

We are planning some events that will be coming up. Easter and Mothers' Day will be great for brunch. We have a beautiful old English-style tavern and would like to do a beer-and-food-pairing meal. We also want to do some meals that pair wine with the courses of food. We are planning on doing some cookouts for the Concerts on the Green in July — a little outdoor porch dining. We are thinking of doing Martini night, with a little history and a look at cigar-education in the summer.

Personally, what is your favorite appetizer? Entrée? Dessert?

My favorite foods. This is always the hardest question I ever get asked. I love most foods when they are done well and exhibit passion, creativity, quality and craftsmanship. It could be simple food like Buffalo Chicken Wings or more complex, like a good wine or cheese.

I like good crab cakes, lamb, duck and rabbit, and silky chocolate desserts. Anything chocolate will do.

Albert Bitici

Jim Logan, the new executive chef at the Middlebury Inn, eagerly awaits serving his new clientele.

Brattleboro hosts progressive female film festival

Event's proceeds benefit Women's Crisis Center of Windham County

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

The Oscars may have passed, but Brattleboro is currently hosting its own celebration of film. March 5 marked the beginning of the 13th annual Women's Film Festival, which showcases feature films and documentaries about women, directed by women. "Our mission is to put on the screen different images of women," explained Barbara Mueller, the festival's special events coordinator. Shows will run from Thursday until Sunday, March 21, at Latchis Theater.

"Native Warriors" captures the struggles of a group of Native American teenage women

Several years ago, volunteers from the Women's Crisis Center of Windham County decided to organize the film festival as a fundraiser for the Center.

To the delight of its organizers, over the past few years, the festival has grown to attract a wider audience than just women. "This year we're noticing more families and males, which is good. Just because we're a women's film festival does not mean that our message is only to women," said Mueller. Turnout this year has been exceptional, with most movies selling out the 106-seat theater.

The festival's website, www.women'sfilmfestival.org, describes the films as "certain to shake up preconceptions and ignite minds and hearts." One of the more anticipated movies, "Love and Diane," is a documentary that follows the life of a teenage mother on welfare for several years. Another documentary, "Native Warriors," captures the struggles of a group of Native American teenage women as they train for the Arizona cross-country running championships. Other movies include a tale of women during the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement — "Standing on My Sister's Shoulders" —, a movie about Maggie Kuhn — "Maggie Growls" —, the woman who founded the Grey Panthers at age 75 and several international films never shown in the United States.

When women's rights supporter and actress Kathryn Hepburn passed away last year, the festival's organizers decided to pay homage. Mueller honored Hepburn, saying, "She had been a strong supporter of women's causes throughout her life. She has always been a feminist, and we felt that she should be honored." Two of her films, "Adam's Rib" and "Alice Adams," were shown.

In addition to the movies, the festival also features various lectures and events. On March 12, director Nora Jacobson spoke about her film "Nothing Like Dreaming," a movie about a teenage girl growing up in Northern Vermont. On March 19, a panel discussion entitled "Through Their Eyes" will provide directors a forum in which to talk about how they choose their subject matter and the process of bringing it to life on screen. A "Wise Women Panel" will be held on the final day of the festival to bring together older women in the area to speak about their relationship with the community. Younger women were already given an opportunity to express their feelings about how the media influences them in "This Image Hurts Your Image…Taking Control of the Media."

Mueller explains that "there are lots of reasons to have a women's film festival, and one is to create another image besides the stereotypical image of women." These films, she continued, "all challenge a pre-conceived notion."

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THE LOCAL FLAVOR

BY JOSHUA CARSON AND DAVID PERITZ

RESTAURANT
AMERICAN FLATBREAD
LOCATION
137 MAPLE STREET
HOURS
FRI. & SAT. 5-9:30
FEATURES
WOOD-FIRED OVEN PIZZA

Friday night is a busy time for American Flatbread. Not privy to this well-known fact, we, along with four of our buddies, decided to go out for a night on the town. When greeted with, "It will probably be a 45-minute wait," we decided we could better utilize this time by taking a shower than sitting at the bar, not getting served and watching spectacular flatbread creations pass us by.

They eventually sat the six of us in the corner of the restaurant, where six guys tend to be placed. Walking by numerous families with children and couples seated for a romantic meal, it was clear that this is a restaurant for all occasions. Shortly after, a friendly waitress arrived with a pitcher of water.

The dining room is situated in a large, old storage facility. The walls are stone and adorned with uplifting posters supporting local farmers and promoting equality. There is an eclectic combination of lighting — including candles, a fireplace and utility lights, all of which create a dim yet enjoyable environment. The furniture was basic, to say the least. Although the aluminum chairs were comfortable for the first 20 minutes, the long meal proved taxing on the back.

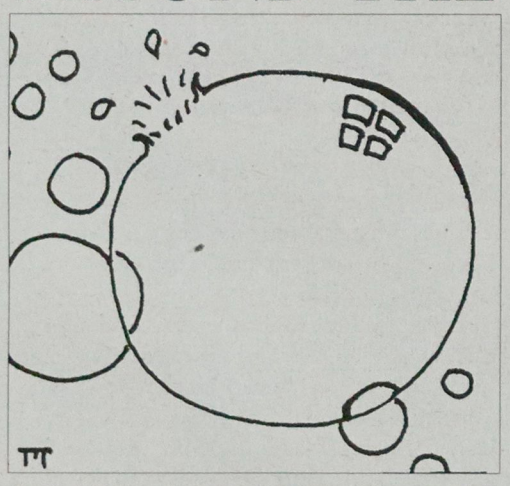
American Flatbread prides itself on using all-natural ingredients in everything they serve and is especially fond of using a wood-fired oven to ensure that each flatbread has an authentic texture and flavor. Conducive to "family style" dining in which entrees are ordered and then shared among all individuals, we picked out four flatbreads, all of which had intimidating names.

The Punctuated Equilibrium combined Kalamata olives, oven-roasted red peppers and home made Vermont goat cheese with rosemary, red onions, mozzarella and garlic. We also tried the New Addison Sausage flatbread with fresh pork sausage, sun-dried tomatoes, caramelized onions, mushrooms and cheese. The self explanatory Pepperoni and Peppers came next and we ended with one of the evening's specials — a great amalgamation of scallops, braised leeks, bacon vinaigrette dressing, lemon, fresh basil and some other ingredients that we had never heard of. If you, like us, are intimidated by some of these ingredients, do not worry. Order it anyway because it seems that whatever comes out of that large brick oven tastes awesome. Although they come out looking like Pizza Styx, this is no Neil and Otto's. Also, make sure to bring an ID as Flatbread has a bar stocked with local microbrews and well-established wines.

While the food was excellent, the service was understandably slow because each pizza is individually prepared and cooked. But our waitress could not have been nicer or more accommodating. The prices for the flatbreads were on the moderate to expensive side, especially for a college student's budget. But considering the unique and predominantly organic product that is served, the prices are justified. Then again, it is just pizza.

If you are on campus this weekend, be sure to stop by and support the benefit bake to promote organic and local food in public schools. Eight dollars will be donated for every flatbread sold.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE



BY CLAIRE NIELSON AND LISIE MEHLMAN

Although we are dreading Spring Break because it underscores the fact that we only have six week left in our freshman year — six weeks left to have our stupid and crazy actions excused by the fact that we are, indeed, freshmen — we still feel the need to prepare for the hot rays of our West Coast destinations. Tanning and manicures in town were on the agenda.

While Claire was an old pro (what else is there to do in Boise?), Lisie was a tanning virgin — a tanee-in-training, you might say. Having just recently recovered from a suspicious case of hives, perhaps tanning was not the best idea. However, the cowboy boot clad employee of O'Brien's assured both of us that we would not regret our decision.

The actual experience was life altering for us. At the beginning, we tried to play the geography game whilst in the boxes. But by the time we, inevitably, got stuck in a rut of A's (Arizona, Alaska, Alabama, Armenia, Antarctica, Argentina…) we had both nodded off. Our eight minutes were up soon enough.

No tan lines, no visible signs whatsoever of any color. Not until days later, after Claire had endured another eight minutes, this time sans the geography game, and Lisie's skin decided to peel off at the most inopportune times — in class, in front of her dining hall crush at the panini machine — did the UV rays set in.

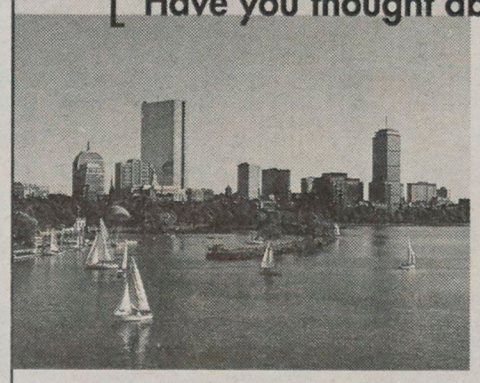
We then sauntered down to My Kim Nails to get our bitten, cracked, yet nonetheless sexy, nails done. Walking in, we had the sensation that we were transported across the pond to Vietnam circa 1973. "Who is Kim?" we asked to no one in particular. My Kim, reminiscent of the nail boutique Reese Witherspoon frequents in "Legally Blonde," featured mood music consisting of a cassette tape of Vietnamese tunes. Who even has cassettes anymore? (We do. This is just our attempt in trying to sound cool. We listen to books on tape religiously.) However, eager to please their new customers, the manicurists graciously turned the radio to 98.9 — the country station we like. As "You can take the girl out of the honkey tonk but you can't take the honkey tonk out of the girl," blared from the boom box, the male manicurists jabbed at our nails. Although yelps of pain are not commonplace at nail salons, or at least not at Trudy's in "Steel Magnolias," our fingers throbbed with pain.

There were also interesting characters at the salon. One woman we encountered managed an online company that specialized in bowties. Joe, the brother of the ruthless manicurist, sketchily ran out of the store in a mad dash, never to return. The manicurist ran outside right after him, still sporting the Michael Jackson-esque facemask he wore (to protect him from the toxic fumes of nail polish?), leaving us alone with the country music.

At the end of our afternoon of beauty, we were pasty white with really poorly manicured nails. If you actually want to get a tan and a manicure, do not follow our example. If you are looking for guaranteed laughs, go beyond the bubble, all the way to Main Street.

What is your next step?

[Have you thought about graduate school in Boston?]



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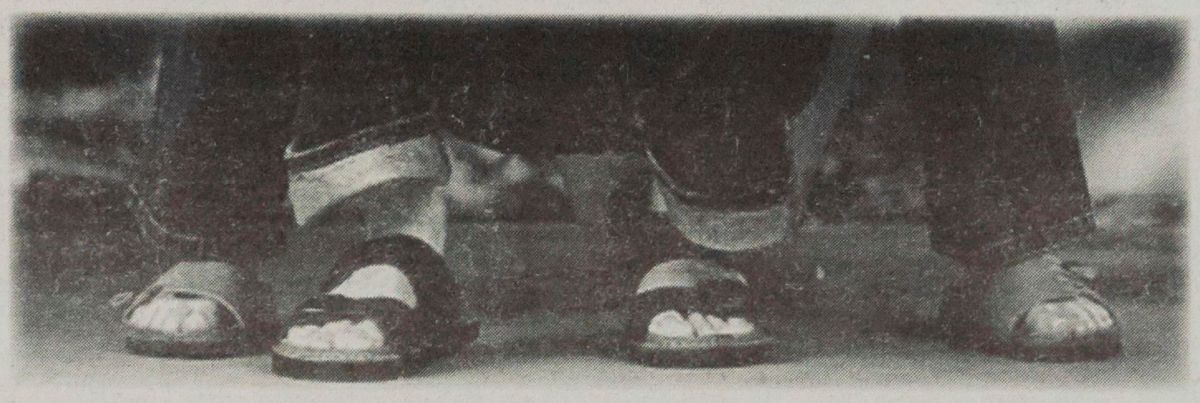

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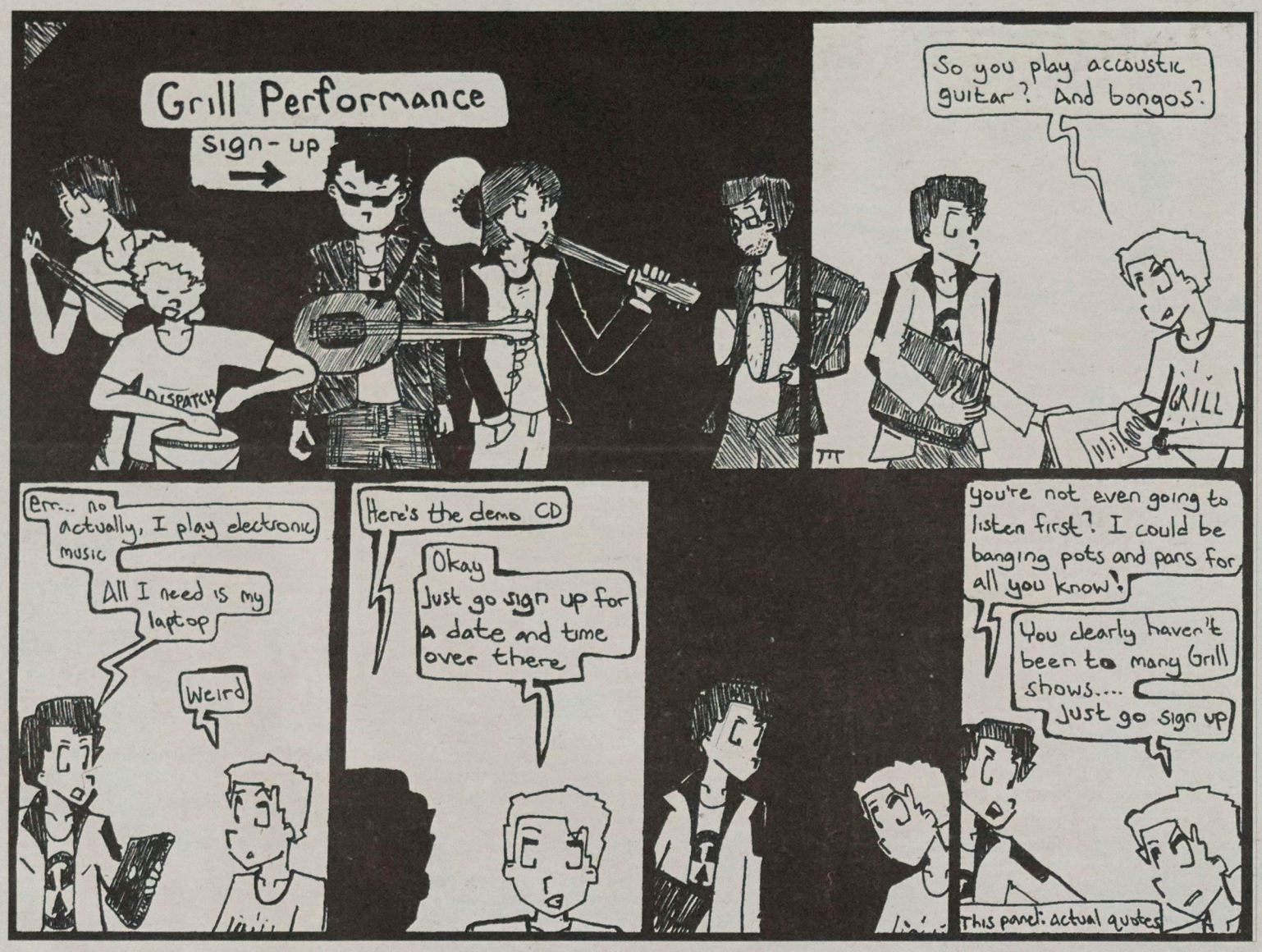
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DISPATCH
So you play accoustic guitar? And bongos?
GRILL
Err... no actually, I play electronic music
All I need is my laptop
Weird
Here's the demo CD
Okay Just go sign up for a date and time over there
you're not even going to listen first? I could be banging pots and pans for all you know!
You clearly haven't been to many Grill shows....
Just go sign up
This panel: actual quotes

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Editorial

Is Community Council's Door Stuck Shut?

ZOO President Leigh Taylor '05 told *The Middlebury Campus* this week that "members of both ZOO and Community Council were quite candid" at Monday's closed-door session. She expressed confidence that the process would yield "the best possible outcome for everyone involved." Let's hope so. But unless you're a member of Community Council, you'll have no idea of ZOO's fate — or what precipitated all of this scrutiny — until after the final decision is taken.

For the second consecutive week, the Council sent our reporter packing as it continued to deliberate on ZOO's future. The closed-door mentality doesn't show signs of lifting.

The Council is the primary venue where students, faculty and staff come together to craft College policy. The Student Co-Chair of Community Council (SCCOCC) is elected by the student body to represent its interests in this vital process. Through that position — and seven additional student seats, including the SGA president — students are given an important stake in College leadership.

Students, however, cannot see what their representatives are doing when the door shuts right as important matters come to the floor. This way of conducting business presents an electoral disconnect between the SCCOCC and the student constituents.

Elections for next year's SCCOCC are drawing near. Transparency of Council business should figure into every viable candidate's platform. The body was designed to give students a voice in matters that cut across faculty, staff and student lines. Candidates should recast the Council's identity to better mesh with that founding principle.

In the meantime, the Council should be sure the door doesn't lock behind it.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

In response to last week's "Notes from the Desk" article [March 11, 2004] of *The Middlebury Campus*, I found that the author's attitude towards the relationship between Old Chapel and the College community was negative, unconstructive and equivocated. While Old Chapel may have decided to build the large construction of Bicentennial Hall against the town's will (for aesthetic purposes), it supports the town in important matters such as safeguarding the housing market against wealthy college students so that locals can still afford to live in Addison County. Old Chapel also has great respect for students' opinions. I have seen multiple times the direct effects of class evaluations in the editing of curriculums and the tenure status of professors.

As for the status of J-Term, the persistence of the savejterm.com team brought awareness to the faculty and administration of the community's love of J-Term by providing a forum for overwhelming student and alumni response. While we cannot prove that savejterm.com actually saved J-Term, we know for a fact that it amplified the enthusiasm to a level that the voters could not mute. I can only hope that this form of activism is more prevalent on campus, especially when there are absolutely no deleterious effects brought about.

The author believes it is futile to take a stand on issues at this school. Even if the administration does not always respond to protests from the community, this school and ultimately this country would be very different than they are today if it weren't for the voice of protestors.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Breuer '05
Kenilworth, Ill.

To the Editor:

As a member of the Class of 2007.5, I took offense to Peter Yordan's "Angry Peter" column in last week's edition of *The Middlebury Campus*. What makes Yordan think that he is more entitled to hockey tickets than any other member of the College community? Last time I checked, the rink was still called Chip Kenyon Arena, not Peter Yordan Arena. I don't believe it is right for him to take cheap shots at the Febs in a public forum like this newspaper, especially when he has no basis for complaint. If he was truly dedicated to seeing the last home hockey game of his college career, he would've been in line at Kenyon well in advance of the time the tickets went on sale. I've only been here a month and I already know that if you really want to be sure you'll get a ticket, you have to get in line early. It was a real classy move on his part to take his anger out on the new kids.

Yordan's complaints about our "lame" cheers and inappropriate treatment of other schools make me wonder: Who exactly is he rooting for? Part of the fun of a collegiate athletic event is making your building a scary place for the visiting team. If you don't like the way we cheer, or you don't like the way the tickets are sold, I have one suggestion — don't come to the games.

Sincerely,
Nick DeSantis '07.5
Diamond Point, N.Y.

Memories from the days of frats

I attended Middlebury from the fall of '87 through spring of '91. The drinking age in Vermont did not return to 21 until 1987, when Vermont was forced to do so or face losing its federal highway money. On campus, parties continued to flourish for some time. However, it was explained that in order to comply with federal drug laws (alcohol being a drug) the College was forced to crack down extensively on underage drinking in order to qualify for Federal financial aid/subsidization. The elimination of unsanctioned free parties was progressively accomplished during my years at school.

I was greeted with the pleasure of attending social events where I could share a beer with a professor or a Dean and chat.

In last week's edition of *The Middlebury Campus* [March 11, 2004], it was reported that registered parties at fraternities increased dramatically during that time; they most certainly did. Two explanations. Firstly, the college cracked down on unregistered parties, forcing all keg-related parties to be officially sanctioned and allowed only in approved social spaces (vs. impromptu in someone's room or a dorm hallway). This left students with the option of extraordinarily sterile college sponsored parties with selected DJs, or more free-spirited/organic parties at the fraternities. While many preferred the old system of impromptu dorm parties, the next best alternative — as indicated by the students voting with their own actions — was to attend student-run parties at fraternities (and the handful of other college owned houses that were off campus).

Fraternities were far from bastions of sexism and hedonism. They naturally drew the ire of feminist organizations and some groups of men, but they were embraced by a great number of women who frequented them all. A great deal of the student body was indifferent to them because they simply were not their cup of tea. What was perhaps their most endearing quality was their variety. They provided a vastly different experience from house to house, as members associated to a great degree with others of like mind and interests. Hence, events reflected this diversity.

Also, it was reported that the disintegration of the fraternity system was due to some poor choices made by some members. However, interestingly with its early 90s charter to regulate fraternities, the college placed fraternities in a bind by stating that membership must be open to any and all applicants, while at the same time holding the fraternity membership in its entirety responsible for the actions of any one of its members. In many ways this was akin to holding an entire dorm or hall responsible for the actions of two residents. Fraternities had no choice but to admit students who were liabilities from day one, due to their behavior.

All said, it was my conclusion during this time that the College was more concerned about eliminating fraternities because they defied the College's rigid vision of diversity — a rather oxymoronic policy given that the word implies "inclusive of many options" and "freedom to choose" vs. eliminating specific behavior/choices.

This opinion was reinforced when women wishing to start sororities during my years were flatly denied the opportunity. The College had its own vision of coed social groups, and talk of creating dorm related social units was viewed by many as lacking unique personality and on par with associating with your own dorm. It was my recommendation at the time that the College should have an open charter for any and all organizations, single sex, coed, etc., and that it begin holding individuals accountable for their specific behavior.

On a related tangent, I might also add that I saw a direct correlation with the increase in drinking age (to 21), and its more rigid enforcement, to asinine behavior among students on the entire campus. When I arrived at Middlebury, I was greeted with the pleasure of attending social events with my peers and faculty where I could share a beer with a professor or a dean and chat.

Such civility caused a younger person to step it up a notch (mind you, we almost all matriculated from states with age 21). But that went the way of the dodo bird as students, being newly told they were too irresponsible to handle alcohol at age 18, began acting more and more irresponsibly with their alcohol as each year passed. It seemed that the administration sympathized with the problem's cause, but had its hands tied by government requirements.

Finally, as keg parties were rooted out and access to beer became more difficult, dorm room doors closed to the public and hard alcohol became more prevalent as students "loaded up" before heading out in case they couldn't get a beer at a party due to ever more strenuous I.D. initiatives. Dorm damage, formerly limited, became commonplace — sinks ripped off walls, etc. A very sad development, indeed, and a far cry from my sipping a beer while chatting with Dean Erica Wonnacott my first-year fall.

Johannes Ernheart '91
A financial consultant
from Pittsburgh, Penn.

Don't let theory dissuade you

A closer look at Fair-Trade coffee in light of pragmatic economics

I am no Econ major — I'll admit that outright — but I did pay enough attention in a couple of intro Micro classes to know that the theoretical economic arguments against fair-trade coffee don't apply to the real world. Champions of the free market argue that if a free market exists, unimpeded (for example, by a price floor on fair-trade coffee), society will accrue the greatest total benefit. In theory, eliminating price floors or ceilings creates a greater total benefit by eliminating what economists call a "dead-weight loss." However, this theory does nothing to address the distribution of that total benefit. In the current global coffee market, where there are no price floors to ensure that coffee farmers receive an equitable portion of that total benefit, the vast amount of wealth is concentrated in the hands of very few.

Another argument against fair-trade coffee is that because it's more expensive, demand for coffee will fall, causing a large surplus in the global coffee market. In this case farmers will be no better off. This may be true in theory, but in real-life, demand for fair-trade coffee is on the rise. Between 1999 and 2001 the amount of fair-trade coffee purchased in the U.S. rose by over 360 percent. These numbers suggest that people value the ethics behind fair-trade coffee and are willing to pay more for a socially responsible product.

Opponents also argue that because fair trade acts as a sort of subsidy, it prevents farmers from modernizing and encourages them to continue farming a product that is obviously not profitable. According to free-market economists, coffee growers should abandon their farms and seek employment in a more lucrative sector of the economy. In the case of most third world countries, especially in Latin America, that usually means either migrating to the cities or replacing coffee plants with coca. Neither urban migration nor the production of cocaine benefits society or contributes to a more efficient economy.

On the contrary, both the coffee farmers themselves and society as a whole would be better off if the farmers continued growing coffee instead of migrating to the city and adding to the already astounding growth of urban slums. Similarly, if farmers felt less compelled to switch from coffee to cocaine, the United States could spend the millions of dollars that it pours into the war on drugs on something that directly benefits its citizens. Suffice if to say that, while fair-trade coffee could be seen as a subsidy and in a purely theoretical free market would cause a certain amount of inefficiency, it may actually end up costing society less in the long run. What I doubt is that Middlebury's decision to purchase fair-trade coffee would have even the slightest effect, positive or negative, on the global coffee market. What I am sure of is that the college's decision *would* make an impact on the lives of some individual coffee farmers who are struggling to make enough money to feed their families and send their children to school. The 10,000 pounds of coffee that Middlebury consumes a year might mean nothing in comparison to the 12 billion pounds that are consumed globally but they would mean something to the farmers who would be getting a "fair" price for them.

Alyssa Jumars '06
A Spanish major
from Whitefield, Maine.

NOTES
FROM THE DESK

If I had to choose one thing I've found dissatisfying in my three years at Middlebury, it would be Room Draw, hands down.

Before I continue, let me thank each and every member of the committee for spending time and effort this year to rethink Room Draw. I know it couldn't have been an easy process, finding a solution appealing to the majority of students while keeping the College's commons system vision in mind. Thanks for your hard work.

That said, Room Draw is the bane of my existence.

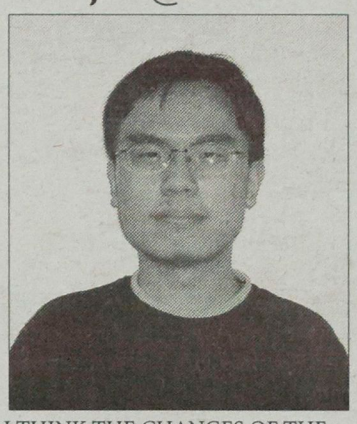
Undeniably, the new system is wonderful — for fans of the commons system and especially for those young enough to plan ahead to rack up bunches of good commons points for future years. For those who have been here long enough that room decisions weren't commons-guided, this new system is awful. I'm sure there are many of us rising seniors who would have sucked it up and stayed in commons we were less than satisfied with in order to gain those two extra points. In three years I have been in three different commons — I couldn't continue in my first one despite my desire to. As a disgruntled friend of mine said, "Who will want to draw me into a block when I can't add significantly to the pool of points?"

As long as discrepancies exist in commons housing, it's unreasonable to require student allegiance to a commons they were assigned to upon admission. Perhaps future Middkids would be more receptive to the idea, but I'm sure the majority of rising seniors would rather this system be integrated slowly into the procedure books rather than immediately with the result that we are disadvantaged.

I will get a good room next year. As a rising senior there is little chance of me being shunted off to some forgotten corner of campus. However, because I don't have the commons points necessary, I will never have as good a room as my sister had at her college her *freshman* year, despite my senior standing. And that is something she'll never let me live down.

Andrea Gissing
Associate Editor
The Middlebury Campus

The Middlebury Campus online poll

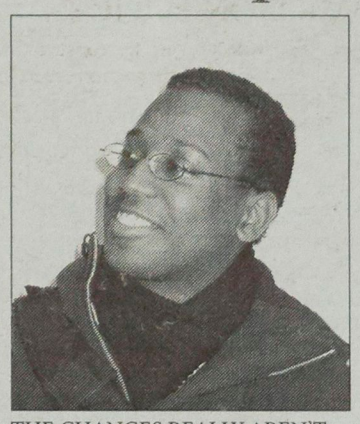


I THINK THE CHANGES OF THE ADMINISTRATION WON'T AFFECT THE POLICY OF THE COLLEGE. THE CURRENT POLICIES ARE ALREADY DEEPLY EMBEDDED IN THE MINDS OF STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS.

—YANLING CAO '06

THE ADMINISTRATION IS MAKING [THE COLLEGE] A LITTLE MORE FRACTIONALIZED. SPECIFICALLY, THE COMMONS SYSTEM DOESN'T PROVIDE ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY IN MAKING FRIENDS IN DIFFERENT PLACES.

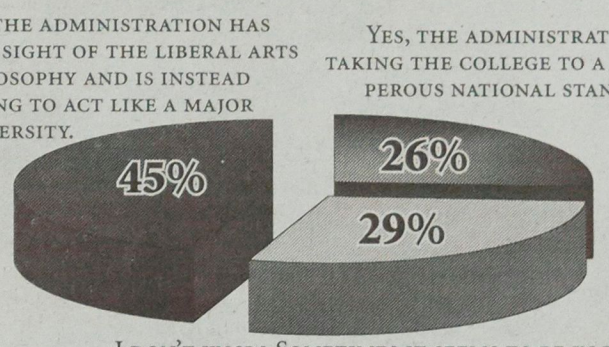
—CHAR CARLSON '05



THE CHANGES REALLY AREN'T THAT DRASTIC. IT'S LIKE THE ADMINISTRATION IS JUST SHIFTING ITS WEIGHT AND IS STILL SITTING.

—MICHAEL COOPER '06

WILL THE CHANGES THAT THE MIDDLEBURY ADMINISTRATION IS MAKING TAKE THE COLLEGE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION?


No, the administration has lost sight of the liberal arts philosophy and is instead trying to act like a major university.
45%
Yes, the administration is taking the college to a prosperous national standing.
26%
29%
I don't know. Sometimes it seems to be in touch and other times I find myself wondering if it spends any time on campus.

Results based on 68 responses collected between March 10 and March 16 at www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Poll Question: How will the new rules allowing greater co-ed living arrangements affect social relations on campus?

'You're fired!'

Contemplations for an anxious society

"Three days, 23 hours, 16 minutes until "The Apprentice"! Ahhhhhhhhh!!!" These are the sorts of exclamations that you would hear throughout the week if you were to dwell in our LaForce suite. No joke. We are just a couple of the many Middkids who take time out of their insanely busy schedules to watch their favorite show. Our indulgence airs every Thursday night at 9 p.m. on NBC. Contestants on "The Apprentice" compete in what is essentially a corporate rat race for a one-year position as president of one of Donald Trump's companies.

We are not your typical sofa-dwelling reality-TV show watchers. In fact, we are quite disgusted by the recent fad. But in this world of jobless economics majors and unemployable English majors, we have been drawn to a new addiction — seeing others tackle the competitive job market. Anticipation pervades the suite as the losing team enters the boardroom in the shadow of Trump's ominous presence, waiting for the final judgment — "You're fired!"

What appeals to us in particular about "The Apprentice," however, is its divergence from the current themes of reality-TV. You won't find booty-shaking girls or sex-consumed guys. You won't see unreality on the magnitude of "Temptation Island" or "The Littlest Groom" (not to say that midgets can't find wives). Instead, the show portrays the brutality of the current job market with all its unreasonable deadlines and unnecessary drama.

Despite NBC's commercial agenda, we would like to applaud the network for finally providing the world with a realistic reality show, one that won't lower our intelligence quotients by mere viewing of said programming. It's like the difference between a tomato and a steak: no matter how much Phenyl-Free High Protein formula you drink, the tomato will never reach the sweet succulence of the medium-rare, top-sirloin steak.

For regular viewers, here is our personal assessment, along with hypothesized odds of winning:

Troy: Despite his lack of higher education, he's got all his eggs in the businessman basket. But Trump's previously high opinion of him may be sinking with the overweight ballast of his team's recurring losses.
Josh: 5 to 1
Nicole: 7 to 1

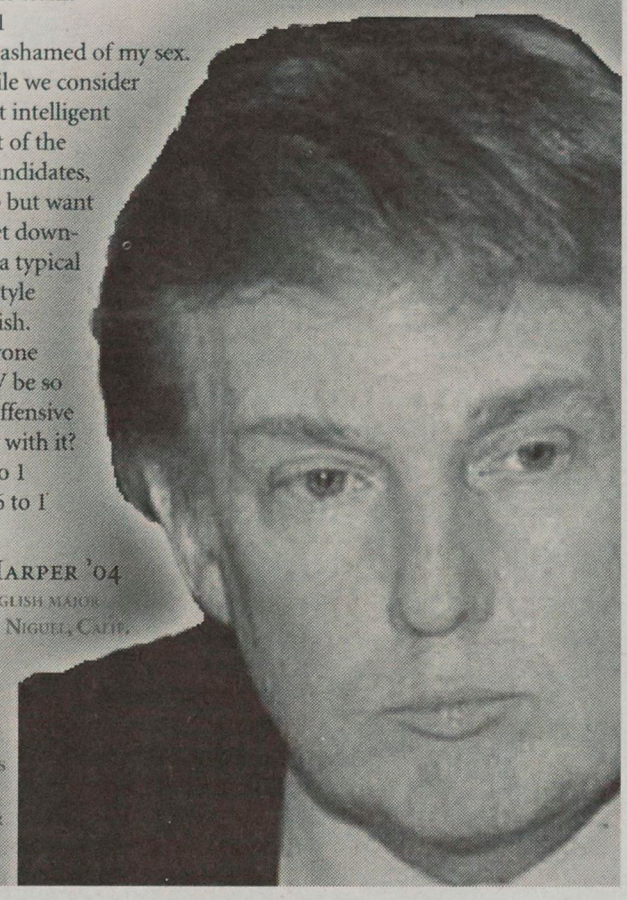
Amy: Although she is popular among the prospectives, her personality is about as likeable as "Smog." If a girl is going to win, it unfortunately will be her: not much competition there.
Josh: 12 to 1
Nicole: 25 to 1

Bill: Composed and always levelheaded (even in the boardroom), Bill is as cool as ice. Trump Ice, if you will. (We might). As nobody's enemy, his chances of survival are looking good.
Josh: 8 to 1
Nicole: π (that's 3.14159…) to 1

Nick: More rigid than an hour-old slice of Ross pizza in his sales strategy, Nick's strong opinions may help him sell copiers, but not water to a parched millionaire in a desert of fire and shame where money grows on trees. He needs to play well with more than just Amy if he intends to succeed.
Josh: 10 to 1
Nicole: 9 to 1

Katrina: If Katrina had any more sass and senseless criticism, she could be a judge on "American Idol." Illogical and rash, she contributes nothing to the team.
Josh: 173 to 1
Nicole: I am ashamed of my sex.

Kwame: While we consider him the most intelligent and eloquent of the remaining candidates, we can't help but want to see him get down-and-dirty in a typical Apprentice-style blood-skirmish. How can anyone on reality-TV be so generally inoffensive and get away with it?
Josh: 3 to 1
Nicole: 6 to 1



Josh Harper '04
An English major
from Laguna Niguel, Calif.

Nicole Maddox '06
An economics and history double major
Beaumont, Texas.

Middlebury silent on federal aid ban

I am writing in relation to the recent *New York Times* article about the Student Aid Ban for past offences printed on March 13, 2004. The article explains how current legislation inserts obstacles and indeed prevents a number of students from being able to acquire federal aid for attending college, due to prior drug offenses. Intended to prevent those already receiving federal aid from continuing to get aid if convicted of a drug offense, it now targets any body who in their past were convicted of crimes related to drugs.

I have a number of issues with this bill. First, it creates a double jeopardy situation for convicted persons. They have already been punished for their crimes, however, they continue to be punished for previous offenses. These punishments include the inability to get a decent education, something that has been proven to be a stepping-stone to recovery and betterment.

Second, this bill unfairly targets and affects those of lower socio-economic backgrounds — those who could best use financial aid to better their overall prospects in life. Those students with wealthier parents and who are convicted, face little to no consequence due to the bill. This added to the rising cost of higher education will further add to the division of socio-economic classes. Additionally, the bill in its current form is being fought by the person who authored it because it does not do what it was intended to do. Finally, the only way the federal government knows of past convictions if the applicant willfully admits to it on their application.

This punishes those who are honest about their pasts, and rewards those who are not. Lastly, this bill does not affect those convicted of more violent crimes (rape, assault and battery). There are bigger fish to fry when dealing with the safety of the campus than those convicted of non-violent drug crimes.

For Middlebury College to not openly oppose this bill, and let it be known that it is willing to meet those whose needs are not met by the federal government, then it is condoning a law that is prejudiced and damaging to many in society. Other institutions, of the same stature as Middlebury such as Yale, Hampshire and Swarthmore have already taken these steps. Why shouldn't Middlebury do the sameif it is truly a need-blind school?

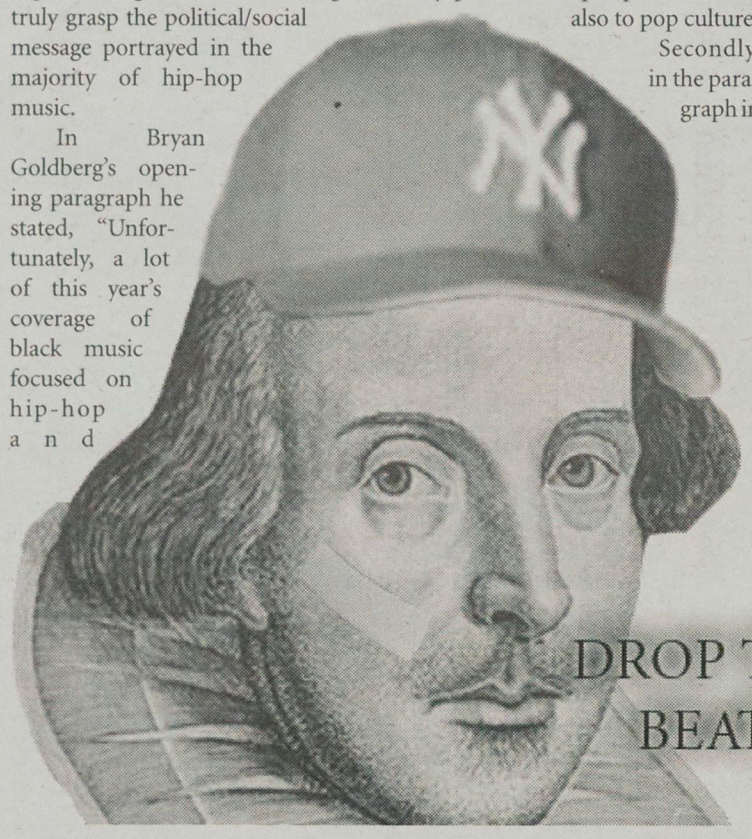
Douglas Campbell '06
A political science major
from Anson, Maine.

Hip-hop: art, politics and social realities

It's interesting to learn how higher education can actually hinder one from truly relating to an art form that is not necessarily "Shakespearian." After reading last week's opinions piece "Can hip-hop rival the canon?" [March 11, 2004], I was convinced that many people are still listening to hip-hop on a very superficial, ignorant level, failing to truly grasp the political/social message portrayed in the majority of hip-hop music.

In Bryan Goldberg's opening paragraph he stated, "Unfortunately, a lot of this year's coverage of black music focused on hip-hop and R&B, with a number of pundits practically deifying the artists." The deification of artists is a direct result of media culture led by consumerism and marketing. Isn't John Mayer also deified? How about Britney Spears? Exactly. Fame and fortune is equivalent to the perks of being "mythical" in American culture. This does not only pertain to hip-hip culture, but also to pop culture.

Secondly, in the paragraph in which I was quoted in the article, those were actually the words of hip-hop scholar Tricia Rose. *Yes*, there are hip-hop scholars who look at the musical form and style from a very academic, critical level. Although some believe that an artist's past is not relevant, I find that it is essential when listening to hip-hop music or any other form of black music. Black people come from a history of racism, genocide and hate, which is still very much apparent in the "land of the free." Social and economic disparities are reoccurring realities.



Just by taking a look at public school systems and housing projects one asks if it is fair that the majority of the people who live in these governmental traps happen to be black or of an ethnic background. It is these people who turn to hip-hop as a form of social/political expression as an escape. This is how hip-hop culture was in fact created in the late 1970s. It is a musical form that was created by people who were products of street, urban life.

Thus, how can one possibly attempt to detach this innate aspect of hip-hop culture, when listening to the music? If done, one is in fact listening to the music on a very shallow, uninformed level. Why listen to music if you have no concept or clue of its history? That is in fact paradoxical and explains the surge of commercialism and mainstream artists. Record companies have realized that people have become what I like to call "lazy listeners," only attracted to hot beats and catchy lyrics. Therefore, America is producing a generation of listeners who don't know or care to know what they are listening to.

As an avid supporter and product of hip-hop culture and music, I can honestly say that only true supporters of hip-hop music understand its fundamental elements regarding race and culture. To these individuals, the music becomes more of a political statement, as most were actually raised in urban environments where hip-hop was the dominant musical form.

This direct connection between music and a common people is an example of its significance as a social movement, not only in the United States, but in countries like France, Brazil and South Africa as well. This is an art form, which like jazz, will be studied in institutions of higher education one day.

Some people have criticized hip-hop by saying that it doesn't evoke any meaningful emotion. My question to that statement is, "How then would you explain hip-hop as a transnational movement?" Obviously the music is moving people's emotions worldwide. Also, hip-hop is in fact "art." It isn't as easy as it looks to create poetry in motion. Picture Walt Whitman saying his poetry to a Neptunes beat. Hard to imagine, huh? Or how about Shakespeare reciting "The Tempest" to a Kanye West beat? I assure you it is no easy task. This is what makes hip-hop such a unique, world-changing art form. Many shrugged it off as a "*street thang*" but it has proved to be a highly sophisticated, creative process that is touching millions of lives around the globe. You can even take hip-hop courses at schools such as the University of Illinois and New York University.

Would something which lacked substance be studied in the first place? I think not. Hip-hop is filled with substance, which can be found in the lyrics of Dead Prez, Jay-Z, Nas, the Roots and even 50 Cent, who critics have denounced. Even though "In Da' Club" was a commercial song, the rest of the album reveals something different: "I'm the diamond in the dirt, that ain't been found/ I'm the underground king and I ain't been crowned/ When I rhyme, something special happen every time/ I'm the greatest, something like Ali in his prime."

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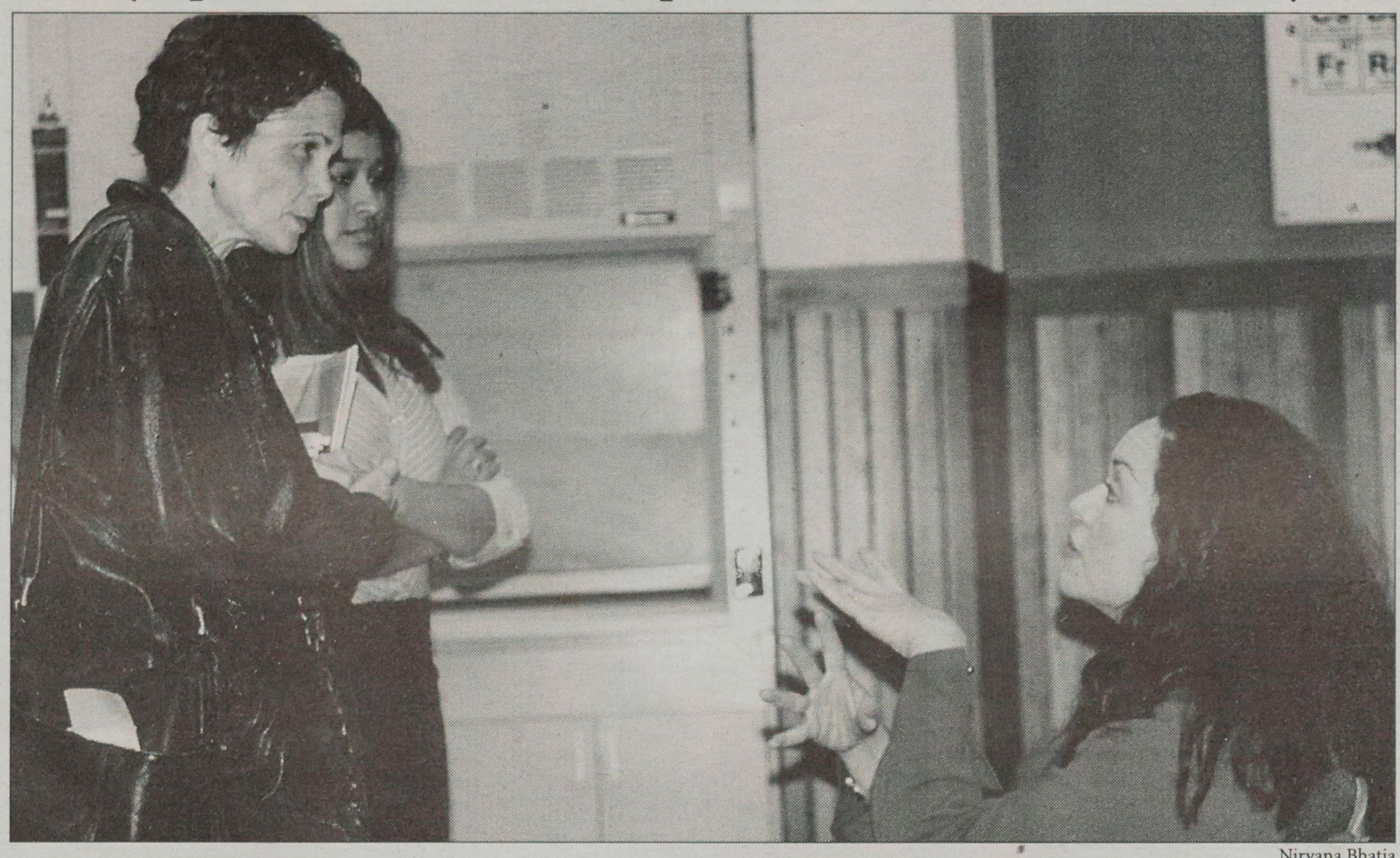
Awakening a sleeping giant

ALC Symposium examines Latino political issues in crucial election year



Nirvana Bhatia

Renowned author Julia Alvarez '71 converses with Latina author and screenwriter Josefina Lopez during last weekend's ALC symposium.

By Mike Ives
Staff Writer

Lectures, discussions and screenings featuring Latino professionals, Middlebury professors and students highlighted cultural and political issues pertinent to Latinos in the United States at the eighth annual Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña (ALC) Symposium last weekend.

Entitled "Sleeping Giant: The Significance of Latino Immigration, the Latino Vote and Latino Forms of Expression in America," the symposium attempted, in a crucial election year, to give Middlebury students a greater understanding of the significance of the growing Latino population in the United States. ALC Vice President Sully Diaz '06 said the symposium aimed to prove that Latinos are "more than just Spanish food, merengue and salsa. This is where we come from, these are struggles and this is what we continue to struggle with."

Instructor in Sociology and Anthropology Hilda Llorens began the symposium on Thursday in the Robert A. Jones '57 House with a lecture about her experiences as both "anthropologist" and "subject" in her native Puerto Rico. Llorens expressed her frequent frustration at her inability to assimilate with New Yorkers as well as with Puerto Ricans, despite her efforts to construct a balanced identity. Her presentation was accompanied by authentic background footage shot in Puerto Rico and New York.

Later that evening, Ken Loach's "Bread and Roses" (2002) was screened in Sunderland. The film highlights a social justice campaign led by marginalized Latino immigrant workers in Los Angeles in the early 90s.

On Friday at The Grille, students and faculty participated in a reading of works by Latino poets and authors. Readings dealt with homeland reflections on colonization, as well as U.S.-based issues of cultural adaptation, misconceived Latino stereotypes, as well as modern language barriers to cultural understanding.

Middlebury students Crystal Belle '04, Christine Etienne '07 and Aracelis Lucero '04 showcased their original poetry along with Josefina Lopez, a renowned Latino author and screenwriter.

Saturday featured Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis' lecture entitled "The Latino Vote: Why It Is Crucial for Democracy in the United States." He spoke on the potential implications of the "sleeping giant" on American politics. Davis gave examples to reveal politicians' increasing reliance on the Latino vote, including efforts by President Bush to appeal to Latino interests.

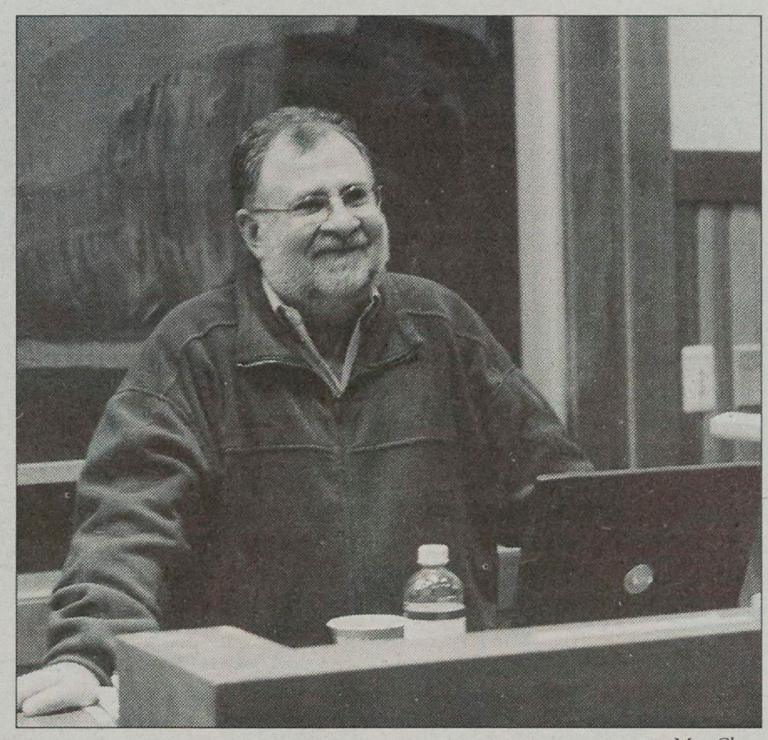
Although the Latino population at Middlebury is small, the "sleeping giant" symposium has ramifications even for a rural college town in which the Latino population is limited. "We are basically a model for what's going on in the United States," said first-year ALC member Amaury Sosa. He pointed out that the ALC did not exist until 10 years ago. As compared with students a decade ago, he said today's students "are more aware of Latinos on campus and Latino issues than they were a decade ago."

On Sunday, a closing remarks ceremony was held in Coltrane Lounge as a culmination of all the ALC events of the weekend. Two guest speakers, Kelvin Roldan '01, graduate and former ALC president and Hernan LaFontaine, president of the Hartford, Conn., city council shared their opinions about achieving success as a Latino in the United States. LaFontaine encouraged Latino students to realize the importance of education, business and politics in their quest for success in the United States. "He [LaFontaine] is a prime example of a leader, of someone who made it," said Lucero.

The ALC symposium successfully educated a receptive Middlebury community on the importance of the Latino population to its country as well as its campus. Said Lucero, "They say the sleeping giant is dormant, but we say he is waking up."

Albert Bitici

Sully Diaz '06 opens the cultural show at the Grille. Readings touched on cultural adaptation and homeland reflections on colonization.



May Chan

Secretary of the College and Professor of Political Science Eric Davis talks about the significance of the Latino vote.

The real Proctor crush: paninis

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

Italians have given the world pizza, focaccia and ravioli, to name but a few of their gustatory contributions. A great many of our foods derive from this boot-shaped nation, as well as one all-important piece of culinary machinery — the "Proctor Panini." In Italian, "panini" means "sandwiches," and today it specifically refers to grilled sandwiches oozing with mozzarella and other gourmet ingredients. The choices are many and the options are endless. A staple in the Italian diet for years, panini have traditionally been popular at cafés during morning and mid-day hours.

Students have quickly caught onto the popular Italian trend. Walk into Proctor Dining Hall on any given day and the two panini machines will be sizzling with student creations that range from the mundane to the downright weird.

Abigail Mitchell '06 is one of many avid student panini-philes. She loves Proctor best because it is "so cozy," but if things aren't looking too good she resorts to a "panini with everything in it."

Lucas Kavner '06.5 was inspired to write a song entitled "Meet Me at the Panini Machine," about a Proctor romance that gets hot fast.

Mitchell willingly disregarded sharp pangs of hunger to give us a profile of her "Hangover Panini" last Sunday, replete with turkey base, cheddar cheese, green peppers, onions, "more onions," sprouts, tomatoes and mustard — or honey mustard if she's looking to spice it up.

Hunter Stuart '06.5 is similarly enthusiastic when it comes to paninis. "I've seen some people making some pretty tasty breakfast burritos, but that's a whole different realm."

A chat with Director of Dining Services Mathew Biette reveals interesting facts about the history of the Proctor panini machine, an apparatus that many of us have come to rely on for our daily survival.

When asked why there is a panini machine only in Proctor, Biette explained, "It is a power thing. Not the power of my position but the power available to run the machines." Biette continued, "It is also a space issue. They obviously take up some real estate, and there is not always room in the other locations. The other panini location is at the Juice Bar." According to Biette, the machine has made its home in Proctor for about three years now, and has been replaced once in that time.

Asked to recount a favorite panini anecdote, Biette responded that he thinks "it is funny when someone with a tortilla is grilling and someone else uses the available space for their sandwich, which happens to be two inches higher than the other. The poor student who was in the queue first, gets a half-cooked tortilla or waits twice as long."

Many panini creators can attest to Biette's observation and would agree that, though unavoidable, this situation is highly annoying. Biette also finds it amusing that "student panini chefs and their creations sometimes need the grill to flatten the sandwich enough to fit in their mouths. It is amazing how much can be packed into a sandwich!"

Biette has never used the Proctor panini machine — he prefers Juice Bar panini — but he recommends not filling the sandwich excessively. "By the time the center will be hot, the bread will be burnt beyond edibility."

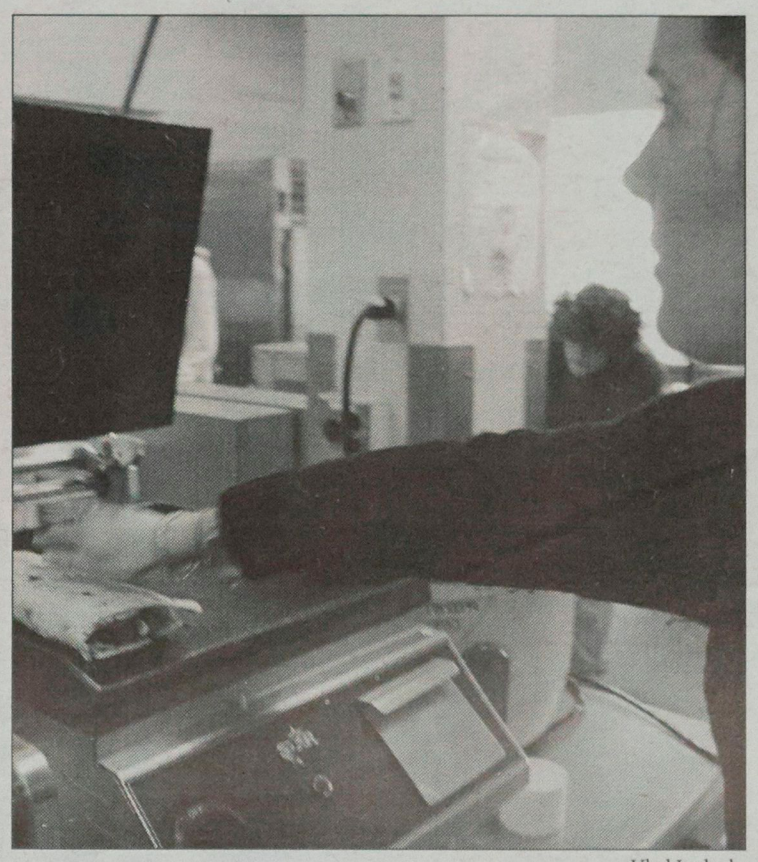
Although there tends to be a greater trend of panini-making later in the day — save the famous breakfast burrito — Proctor diners say they make panini when the food just does not look appetizing, which some opine to be quite often.

Having the time and space are other factors that influence a student's trip to one of the machines. Long lines sometimes push students in the direction of a lackluster salad instead. Lazy weekend meals usually offer respite from the weekday hungry masses.

Not only is a Proctor panini fun to create and consume, but it has also become something to sing and write songs about. For this year's Feb Orientation Grille performance, Lucas Kavner '06.5 was inspired to write a song entitled "Meet Me at the Panini Machine," about a Proctor romance that gets hot fast.

The song starts with two lonely diners who meet in Proctor at the "pita slash tortilla basket." The singer asks, "Hey sugar cake / what you got on your tray?" A Proctor Panini no doubt! He gets his hopes up and tells her, "Baby, Meet me at the Panini Machine / You can make a quesadilla, grilled cheese and more / I'm building a panini sand castle… Today I'm gonna be a god / I'm making a memorable sandwich / and it makes me feel hot / Baby, meet *me* at the panini machine." Hot, hot, hot!

See ya'll at the panini machine!



Vlad Lodoaba
The panini machine is a desired appliance during rush hour at Proctor.

Panini 101
Favorite recipes

1) **Fajita style** – Lucas Kavner '06.5

- **chicken**
- **peppers**
- **cheese**
- **salsa**
- **fajita seasonings**

2) **The Mexican fix** – Noah Kazam '07

- **Mexican rice**
- **lettuce**
- **onions**
- **black beans**
- **shredded cheese**
- **tomatoes**

2) **The breakfast burrito** – Mike Ives '06.5

- **scrambled eggs**
- **crispy cubes**
- **green Tabasco**
- **sour cream**
- **shredded cheese**
- **peppers**
- **mushrooms**
- **red pepper Texas tortilla**
- **salsa**
- **peppers**

Vlad Lodoaba
Inside the wrap: Following a trip to the salad bar, a student prepares to put her culinary concoction in the sizzling Proctor panini machine.

POPROCKS

BY LANFORD BEARD

For me, nothing says Spring Break like old men in Speedos. When I leave behind Vermont's muddy mountains' majesty for the sun-kissed shores of Sanibel Island, Fla., I will inevitably encounter more liver spots and false teeth than bikini babes and cabana boys.

Since I am currently transitioning into that no-man's-land of post-grad old age, I am too work-weary to do anything but lounge under an oversized umbrella, imbibe drinks with undersized umbrellas in them and thumb through fine literature of the glossy magazine persuasion.

Sanibel ain't Cancun, but who wants to ogle hard bodies, feel sex seeping from every pore or sit under amber-flecked showers of cerveza?

Oh yeah, everyone.

Since I'm clearly in the vast minority, I have — with the help of "From Justin to Kelly," "The Real Cancun" and the entire "Vacation" series — prepared a primer for a raucous Spring Break.

First rule: Get out of my dreams and into my car.

All the "It" kids from pop tart Britney Spears to "Y Tu Mamá También" Mexican indie tamales Diego Luna and Gael García Bernal have taken it to the tarmac for the best of both worlds: genital stimulation *and* profound self-discovery!

Second rule: Don't even think about getting mixed up in any crazy treasure hunts.

Leo got smacked up by Thai drug runners in "The Beach," and the kids from "Piñata: Survival Island" — yes, it's actually a movie and I actually saw it — didn't fare too well either. Don't get greedy on Spring Break. It's a time for sharing: drinks, dish and digits in particular.

Third rule: When in doubt, sing it out!

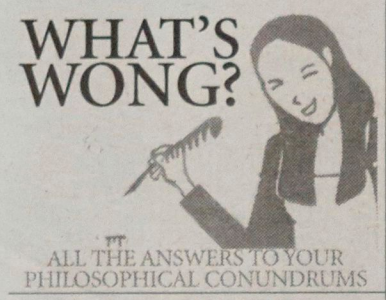
Musical vacation films are a guaranteed fun-maker so why can't real-life singing sprees be? When the karaoke's a-rockin', everyone in the room will have their boots a-knockin'. It worked for Britney, and it will work for you. I am certain that anyone with the good sense and panache to read this column can outshine Britney's pre-fab charisma any day of the week and twice on Sunday.

Fourth rule: If you're already singing, you might as well be dancing — remember your props!

Though the movie flip-flopped more than its post-"Idol" stars' footwear, some inventive towel choreography opened the flick with an energetic production number that nearly convinced me that the price of admission wouldn't go solely toward Justin Guarini's hair products.

Fifth and final rule: Fling! Frolic! Fuhgeddaboudit!

Take a cue from Stella and get your groove back. Pasty skin and mid-semester doldrums have sucked the exuberance out of even the best year-round party hearties, so take this chance to revivify your social life, rejuvenate your emotional life and reanimate your gossip life. Go forward with pride and come back without it. It's Spring Break.



BY VENESSA WONG

The shamrock, the popular icon of St. Patrick's Day whose three leaves originally symbolized the Holy Trinity, is now conventionally seen as a symbol of luck, and superstition has it that finding a four-leaf clover brings good fortune. During this holiday, various parts of the world are washed over with a dazzling emerald wave, and images of the auspicious plant abound. However, in these days of intensely monitored nature, when most calamities can be avoided (or at least corrected) by science, what need do people still have for luck? The answer may reveal some darker workings of human nature.

In "Leviathan," Hobbes writes about man's desire to seek first causes. "Ignorance of natural causes disposeth men to credulity, so as to believe many times impossibilities [...] Anxiety for the future time disposeth men to inquire into the causes of things, because the knowledge of them maketh men the better able to order the present to their best advantage." Man's curiosity leads him to conceive of explanations in the form of "powers invisible."

This concept echoes in Spinoza's "Theological-Political Treatise," in which he writes, "If men were able to exercise complete control over all their circumstances, or if continuous good fortune was always their lot, they would never be prey to superstition [...But as] their immoderate greed for fortune's fickle favours makes them wretched victims of alternating hopes and fears, the result is that, for the most part, their credulity knows no bounds." He agrees that it is fear that "engenders, preserves and fosters superstition."

Perhaps it is innate anxiety that leads people, even in this modern age, to wear charms against misfortune. Caitlin Greenfield '04 has a wide collection of charms and necklaces that she wears for specific occasions to "help [her] feel a certain way." "If you are afraid, and imbuing an object with significance will make you feel better, then that's a good thing. If you can't function without it though, then it's bad."

Siddartha Rao '04 says, "If people experience luck because they have a rabbit's foot, I won't deny that experience, though I think that has more to do with psychology. I think some of these things shouldn't be questioned, and should be allowed to stand on their own merits. Denying them is irrelevant to each person and his experience."

Anastasia Aurol '07, who herself sleeps with "an excessive number" of stuffed animals every night to feel safe, sees luck as the best way to explain certain unpredictable things. "I think it's all about the mindset that helps you succeed. If [believing in luck] doesn't work for you, then you shouldn't bother with it. It's just what you're more comfortable with."

Thus, if it is four-leaf clovers that empower you, then use them to your full advantage. However, as Rao pointed out, "I'm not sure if it works for me as a Hindu, even though they say that everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day."

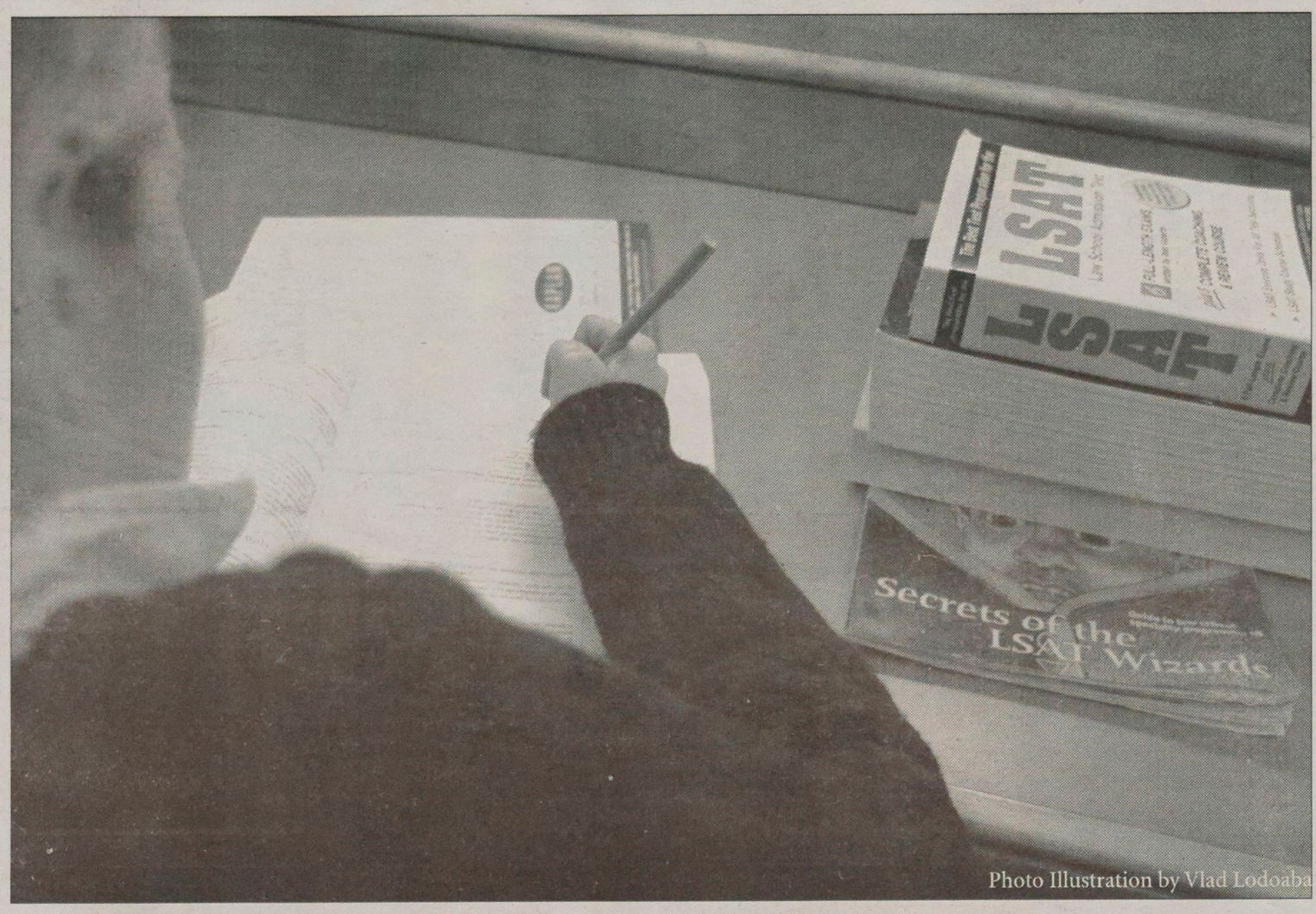


Photo Illustration by Vlad Lodoaba

MCAT, LSAT courses put to the test

Students grade the relevance of test prep classes at the college

By Abbie Beane
Features Editor

You've heard the terms before. LSAT, MCAT, GRE, GMAT — a daunting onslaught of academic acronyms no one particularly wants to contend with, but which are nonetheless imperative to college students planning to graduate into further schooling. And just when you thought all it took was numbers to get there, here are some letters to add to your already heaping plate.

Almost without exception, graduate schools require that students take one of the aforementioned tests. These exams, however, make the SATs and ACTs look like kindergarten coloring quizzes. For example, the MCAT is six hours long and includes a 100-minute physical science section focusing on physics and general chemistry, an 85-minute verbal section similar to a verbal SAT, with two added essays to write and a biological section featuring organic chemistry and biology. Throw in an hour for lunch and two 10-minute breaks, and you've got yourself an overwhelming ordeal required to enter the upper echelon of education.

Rather than go into these exams cold turkey, or with lukewarm confidence, students often take LSAT, MCAT, GRE and GMAT courses to help them prepare. The former two are taught at the College, although all are offered if adequate interest arises any given semester. The question at hand, however, is this: Do Middlebury students believe that the courses are helpful, or worth it, and to what degree?

Regardless, any one of the courses is an enormous personal and financial investment. Under the auspices of Kaplan, the test prep nerve center that organizes and provides for the entire operation, each class, typically 8-10 students, lasts for approximately a month, meets twice per week for three-hour sessions or three times per week for two-hour sessions. These classes will put you back about $800.

As for the class's core materials, students look to the books — the Kaplan lesson/work book, textbooks and a big orange book filled with practice exams (the last only for the LSAT), which teach the Kaplan method of approaching a question, and provide practice questions modeled on the Kaplan textbooks and what the actual exam would look like. Kaplan also gives the students a web page replete with quizzes, workshops and practice tests for all "preppers."

Political Science Professor Murray Dry works with the Kaplan center to coordinate the Middlebury courses. As for the instructors of the classes, Kaplan chooses them based on their credentials for the specific focus they will be teaching. The current teachers of the LSAT class are Bruce Malhotra and Michael Thomas. Josh Pacheco and Thomas teach the MCAT course.

Although Sarah Dye '04, who took the Kaplan prep class for the October LSAT, describes preparing for the test as a mere "illusion that [you're] as well-prepared as possible," she said that "there's really no better way to teach this stuff than the way they do it. The problem is that it's all just really unpredictable. Everyone prepares for the test differently, and it's also hard to control how hard the real test will be and what mindset you will be in the day of the test." She admits that she could have spent more time studying outside of the class, yet says that "locking [oneself] in the library and taking a million practice tests just seems insane." Dry, however, suspects that the students who do best "take the greatest number of practice tests before taking the real test, and that applies with or without a prep course."

Erika Holsman '04, who took the MCAT course, said, "We've taken five full-length practice tests already before the real test. It definitely helps, but the course could be less expensive."

One complaint Giorgi Areshidze '04 had with his Kaplan prep course for the October LSAT was that the instructor urged the students to tackle only two of the logic games rather than all four. "This is a good illustration of the kind of approach they take," said Areshidze. "[They] lower your standards in terms of the actual amount of the test that you will tackle, and try to perfect your ability to do really well on that part of the test. But the whole point is that one should aspire to learn how to do all the games, especially if you're losing the most points on these problems. Logically, that's where you have the potential to gain the most points." Dry suggests that learning how to effectively do as many of the relatively easy games may be the best strategy under strict time constraints.

One student explained that she only got 10 points higher on the LSAT test, although she admits that she did not "go that extra mile" outside of class. "Still it was frustrating."

Another student claimed that the class did not improve his score at all. What it did do was improve his potential score, which means that he now knows he *can* score higher on the LSAT and is no longer burdened by the "upper ceiling." The course helped him to reach his "potential" on the exam.

The Kaplan center itself claims, "The average number of points, which students improve by on the whole is not as important as achieving the goal [or score] they want to achieve."

As an alternative to the pricey Kaplan course, Areshidze recommends getting a one-on-one Kaplan tutor for a one-a-week or biweekly meeting. If you first pinpoint your weak spots by taking a couple practice LSATs or MCATs, "the tutor will be able to tailor the preparatory work for your specific weaknesses. I did this after the course and it helped a lot more."

At least the [LSAT] course gave me the illusion that I was as well-prepared as possible.
—Sarah Dye '04

Also concerned with lowering the cost for students, three to four years ago Dry used to provide support for a prep course when his Pre-Law budget allowed it. For years he used Brian Marohnic, who operates High End Test Prep service, to teach the course, but according to Dry "his schedule has not allowed him to offer a fall course in recent years."

Dry added that there is a scholarship stipend of $200 for students who are on financial aid. The even less expensive way to prepare, however, is to buy past tests, which can be found through LSAC, which makes the tests, or in major bookstores.

Kaplan does, however, offer a money-back guarantee to those students who do not improve their scores at all, providing that they do all the assigned homework, attend all the classes and take the required five in-class tests.

Furthermore, if students decide they don't feel ready the day of the test, also called the "readiness factor," or if they are simply not happy with their score post-test, even if they showed some improvement, they are welcome to retake the class free of charge.

The real issue is the time commitment. "We are very upfront and open [about our policies]," says Kaplan, "and if students use the program correctly, they will improve."

His 40,000 seconds of fame

NASA grant assists Professor Frank Winkler's ongoing astronomy research

By Amanda Goodwin
Staff Writer

Professor of Physics Frank Winkler's office is situated in a nondescript corner of Bicentennial Hall. It is of modest-size and filled from floor to ceiling with astrophysics volumes and mounds of paper. Sporting a loose khaki sweater, jeans and tousled hair, and exuding the air of Robert Frost, Winkler looked as much a poet as a physicist when he described his latest grant-winning research.

Winkler has recently received a highly coveted NASA-funded Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory grant for his project, "Measuring Neutron Star Recoil from a Supernova: A Unique Opportunity in Puppis A."

The grant allots Winkler and his colleague Robert Petre from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center 40,000 seconds of observation time in the world-renowned Chandra X-Ray Observatory, one of NASA's orbiting "Great Observatories." During this time the duo will attempt to confirm continued observations about the debris formation of supernova explosions.

Puppis A, a constellation in the southern part of the sky and remnant of a 3,500-year-old supernova, has been the focus of many of Winkler's observations for several decades. "When stars explode, sometimes the outer parts are blasted into space, and as we see with Puppis, sometimes the inner core collapses, forming an extremely dense neutron star," said Winkler.

He explained the movement of the neutron star, "If, during the supernova, energy is released spherically, the neutron star sits in the middle. If the debris is primarily going in one direction, as it appears is the case in Puppis A, it suggests that the neutron star, if it is there, is traveling in a different direction than the debris — we call this conservation of momentum, like the recoil from a gun. This is what the X-ray will help us determine."

The NASA grant will provide the College with $11,000 to optimize its astrophysics programs.

In addition to helping Winkler confirm his own observations, the NASA grant will provide Middlebury College with $11,000 to optimize its astrophysics programs. "NASA encourages all of us to have programs of educational and public outreach. We will use these funds, which I had to apply for separately, to improve what we do here at our own observatory," Winkler said.

Winkler cited the popular open viewing sessions as an area that will be expanded to provide "a better overall experience for visitors." According to Winkler, improvements include the establishment of a website that will provide information about open house visits, connect the community to student and faculty research and "inform everyone of what they can experience with NASA's funds."

Winkler's project proposal encountered significant competition for Chandra observation time. He estimated that the acceptance rate is one grant per eight proposals. In fact, Winkler's first application was denied last year. "I was lucky this time. We got all the time we asked for," he said. "However, I'm not too surprised, as we submitted a very specific and well-justified proposal based on years of research."

Indeed, Winkler has been studying Puppis A and supernovas for decades under the financial guidance of the National Science Foundation. This past June, Winkler even traveled to Chile with his thesis student Katherine Brutlag '04 to study the remnants of other supernovas.

"There is a lot of great research going on here at Middlebury," concluded Winkler. "I hope that this NASA grant will help inform the Middlebury community of these research projects and encourage more students to become involved."

FEEDING FRENZY

Vlad Lodoaba

Students dabble in the myriad dishes at the food fair in Proctor last week. Dishes ranged from cheeseburger fries to local turkey chili.

WINNERS & LOSERS

WINNER:	LOSER:
HOCKEY	HOCKEY
THE ROUTS CONTINUE ON THE ICE. ANY OPENINGS IN DIVISION I?	CHEERING SECTION SEEN DOZING AFTER FIRST PERIOD.
WINNER: ROOM DRAW	LOSER: ROOM DRAW
GENDER BARRIERS FALL. WHAT'S NEXT, A MÉNAGE-À-TROIS CLUB?	ALL THE FUN OF A JANUARY NIGHT ON MT. ABE — IN SWIM TRUNKS.
WINNER: SPRING BREAK	LOSER: SPRING BREAK
NOT GOING TO A CAY IN THE BAHAMAS? CUDDLE UP WITH THE TV AND DO NOTHING.	JUST WHEN YOU KICK BACK, YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THAT 10-PAGER DUE MONDAY

Well-versed wit splashes the stage

By Brendan Owens
Staff Writer

The AAA Comedy Jam, which took place Saturday evening in McCullough Social Space, was an instance of largely talented people in small places. In fact, this show would have been appropriate for any large comedy venue in the nation.

The three comedians each had an impressive catalogue of jokes from which to draw. While some jokes poked fun at the comedians themselves, others drew laughs by examining the nature of male-female relationships.

Through comedy, Rob Stapleton, Queen Aishah and Tony T. Roberts connected seamlessly with the audience of Middlebury students.

Stapleton traveled all the way to Middlebury from Brooklyn. He was the emcee of the show and the first comedian to perform. His reputable record includes appearances on BET's "Comic View," on "Showtime At The Apollo" and at the "Def Comedy Jam." In addition to his stand-up career, he has written for "Saturday Night Live." His routine varied from falsely announcing Chris Tucker as a guest comedian, to speaking on how rap stars will try to scare you into liking their music. Stapleton also gave the two DJs a lesson on a proper introduction — joke which he carried on through each of the following comedic performances.

Queen Aisha has performed at "Showtime at the Apollo," "Amateur Night at the Apollo," on BET's "Comic View" and in the improv clubs of Washington D.C. A native of New Jersey and Lover of the Garden State (although not an official L.O.G.S. member), Queen Aisha swept onto the McCullough stage Saturday night with the beat of Kelis' "Milkshake" thumping in the background. She delivered a show that was largely focused on her problems with men who, well, have certain inadequacies. One of the highlights of the show was her dance routine with a CRA, who for reasons of anonimity, will be called Ben.

As for Roberts, he traveled to Middlebury from Los Angeles. He has been in a number of movies including "Comedy in the Hood" (2001) and "Brotherly Love" (2003). He, unlike the other two comedians, spared the DJs from reintroducing him. Instead he cut them off almost immediately in a joke that was similar in nature to his entire show — quick-witted and brilliantly funny.

Albert Bitici

Queen Aishah jokes with the crowd at the Def Comedy Jam. AAA sponsored the event, which drew comedians from Brooklyn and L.A.

His jokes included making fun of the shirt of a student excusing himself for a moment, as well as mocking the eyes of the girl who came to pick him up from the airport.

All in all it was a tantalizingly witty show, composed of performers as creative and comic as they were experienced in the art of inducing laughter.

arts

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CHAMBER TRIO DAZZLES

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EXPLORING THE LIFE OF JOSEFINA LOPEZ

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DANCE INVESTIGATES AFRICAN CULTURE

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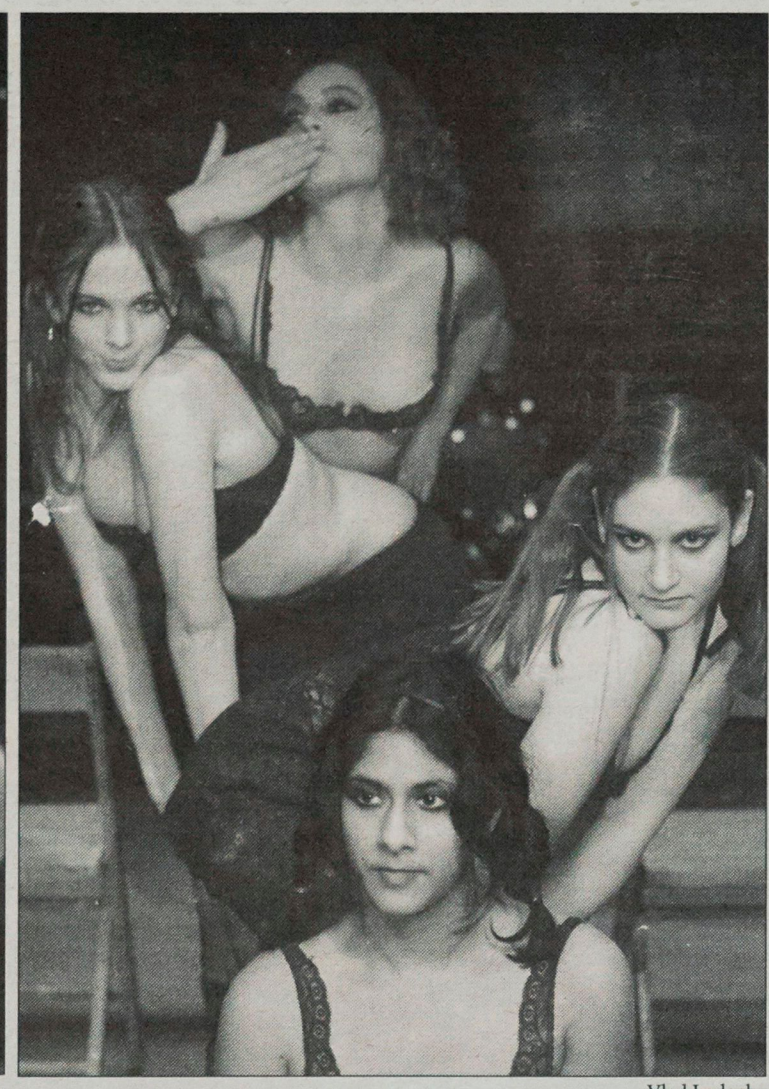
HONORING JOHNSON
30 YEARS IN THE ARCHITECTURAL LIMELIGHT

Vlad Lodoaba



Vlad Lodoaba

Nick Cloutier '06 (left) allured the audience in his role as Frank. The mistresses of his house, the transies (Padma Govindan '05, Melissa Harrington '06 and Anna Murray '07), entertained with song and dance. Eddie, played by Gonzalo Alonso '06 (bottom), won the hearts of the cast and audience.

'Rocky Horror' timewarps to Zoo

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor

In a circuitous twist of events, a 1970s cult film about transvestites, aliens, French maids, tap dancing freaks and, yes, sex, time-warped to this isolated region of Vermont. Uncanny, ambiguous and jam-packed with sexual innuendos, sophomore Shannon Gmyrek's production of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" was an engaging romp.

The scary-musical-drama was performed in the Hepburn Zoo from Thursday, March 11 to midnight on Sunday, March 14. Nestled in the dark quarters of the Zoo, the eerily gleeful atmosphere was just right.

As audience members entered the theater and took seats encircling the stage, they were privy to the tunes of a five-person rock band. The score perfectly complemented the S&M/Goth/punk-inspired attire of the spectators

As the host of an outrageous gathering, Cloutier's Frank lit up every scene with his transsexual charisma.

and the cast that would soon take stage.

The silly but somehow satisfying plot is a unique mix of horror, science fiction and musical theater concocted by Richard O'Brien. An innocent young couple, Janet (Erin King '04) and Brad (Graeme Connell '05), recently engaged, are confronted with a flat tire in the midst of a heavy rainstorm.

They seek a telephone and refuge at an out-of-this-world castle headed by the mad transvestite from planet Transsexual, Frank-N-Furter (Nick Cloutier '06). The other inhabitants, his minions, are the butler, Riff Raff (Daniel Polifka '06), the maid, Magenta (Ashley Timidaiski '07), Columbia (Jenny Bemis '06) and his monster, Rocky Horror (William Birkett '07). When Frank announces that he is returning to the galaxy Transylvania, Riff Raff and Magenta declare that they have plans of their own.

Opening with a Las Vegas-like showgirl performance, the transies (Padma Govindan '05, Melissa Harrington '06 and Anna Murray '07) set the tone for the cabaret with their revealing lingerie outfits and entrancing movements. Katherine Polebaum '06.5 narrated the performance. Her presence was dark, tempting and furtive. Continually guzzling martinis and puffing on a cigarette, her presence resonated the debauchery of "Rocky Horror."

The show was definitely carried by Cloutier's Frank. As the host of an outrageous gathering, he lit up every scene with his transsexual charisma. Wickedly animated, he seduced all with his mysterious good looks and charm. Walking confidently and comfortably in high-heel boots and fishnet stockings and wearing a brassiere, Cloutier persuasively conveyed Frank's ambiguous sex appeal. He delivered his lines with the deliberation of an American speaking like an English bloke.

The duo of King and Connell perfectly embodied the innocence and the virginity of Janet and Brad. Their awkwardness, purity and decorous demeanors resonated in their enchanting voices and naïve commentaries. Their transitions from untainted virgins to Frank-obsessed sex-fiends were fantastic.

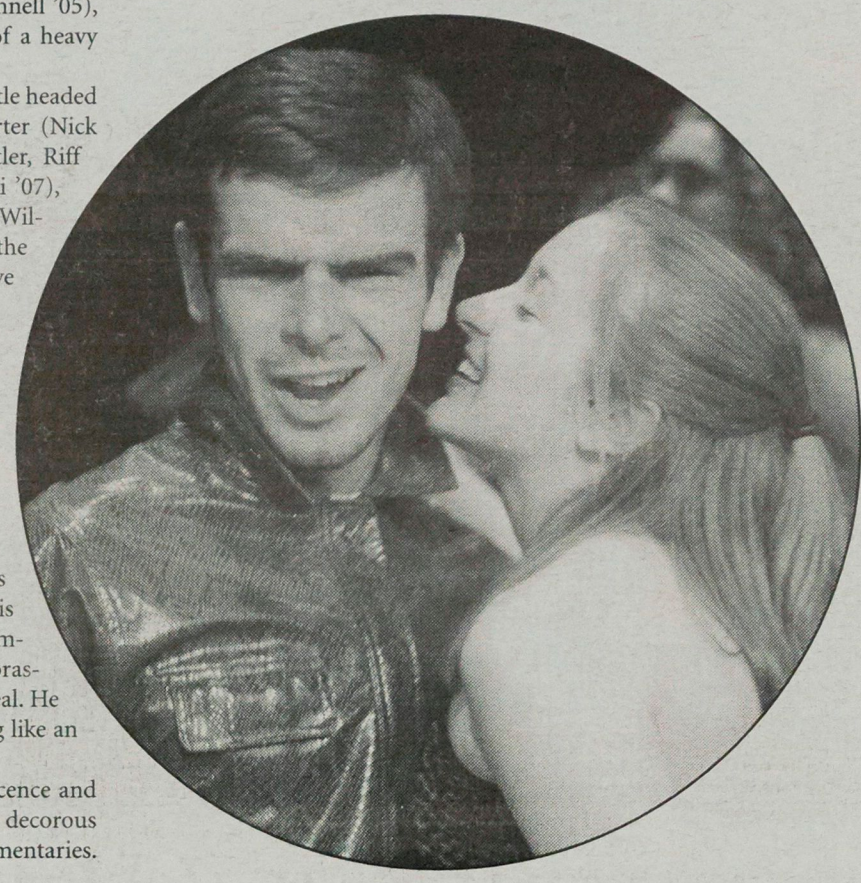
The pair of Riff Raff and Magenta was similarly entertaining. The loud and leather-clad Riff Raff serenaded the audience with his gaudy voice and creepy expressions. He occasionally threw himself into the audience, making for an interactive show. Magenta furthered the wickedness of "Rocky Horror" with incestuous innuendos with Riff Raff and her seductive song and dance around the stage.

Then there's Rocky. Clad in only glittery neon briefs, Birkett humorously captured the helplessness of Frank's creation. Fearful that Frank would reject him, Rocky looked to escape his master's quarters.

Gmyrek's "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" was a definite crowd-pleaser. The musical numbers were catchy and cute but sometimes a bit off-key. The lack of tuning, however, coordinated with the weirdness of the drama.

A definite highlight of the production was the audience participation. The show encouraged the audience to shout out favorite lines and comments, sing along and participate (but no touching the actors). At the conclusion, everybody got up and danced the time warp.

The phenomenon of "Rocky Horror" has left generations wondering what the meaning of this crazy show is. What the show has always managed to create — and what this production related — is a vehicle for self-exploration and acceptance. It was best to leave your critical faculties at the door and surrender to the foolish fun of a "late-night double-feature picture show."



Czech-ing out Florestan

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

The Florestan Piano Trio entertained a capacity crowd Saturday evening in the Center for the Arts (CFA) Concert Hall. Playing a wonderfully varied program, the three virtuosos had something to offer for just about everyone, from the restrained classical masterpiecies of Haydn to the unforgiving Romanticism of Smetana.

With Susan Tomes on piano, Anthony Marwood on violin and Richard Lester on cello, the Florestan Trio demonstrated why the group was chosen to receive Britain's prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Chamber Music in 2000.

An assortment of tonalities, harmonies and melodies melded to form an all-encompassing piece — truly a marathon-like test of will for the performers and the audience.

Their self-stated musical manifesto, printed in the event's program, illuminated the night's musical selection — "The group stands in the great European tradition of chamber music playing which aims to make the expressive purpose of every detail understood, like the words in a sentence or paragraph — to make the music 'speak.'"

The decision to begin with Haydn's "Piano Trio in e-flat minor" proved a wise one. The piece served as a splendid precursor to the Romanticism of Smetana. Haydn's unabashed classical bravado was on full display.

All three players exhibited a vast knowledge of the music and their individual responsibilities. Upon completion of their first piece, it was immediately apparent that the Florestan would take its place among previous classical greats brought to the CFA Concert Hall.

Following the Haydn piano trio, the Florestan tackled Smetana's "Piano Trio in g minor", a dramatic departure from the clockwork precision of the previous piece and the very epitome of "heart-on-its-sleeve" romanticism.

Pianist Susan Tomes explained that Smetana was tremendously influenced by Czech folk music. The music reflects the mosaic of a folk dance, at times rushing along, at other times almost dragging. The separate instruments addressed and responded to each other as though in dialogue. The Smetana was very expressive, almost schizophrenic in its transitions.

The music seemed to be trying to reach a certain goal, as evidenced by the repetition of one particular melodic theme. Varied harmonies and tonalities were explored, but the piece always seemed to funnel back to that one melodic theme.

Very much a product of the time period during which he lived, the Smetana piano trio is unapologetically romantic, full of dynamic and musical warping and change.

In fact, during the composition of his g minor piano trio, Smetana's daughter died. As a result, a section of the trio is a funeral dirge. Lengthy and stimulating, the Smetana piano trio proved the musical highlight of the evening.

Intermission turned out to be a necessary commodity, as the trio finished with Schubert's monumental "Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat," a piece that lasted just over 50 minutes. Schubert is a composer with whom the Florestan Trio is intimately acquainted, having recorded his first two piano trios on compact disc. That same CD won the 1999 Gramophone Award for chamber music and a number of other well known accolades. Prior to the piece's beginning, cellist Lester characterized the second piano trio as "a symphony for three instruments," and an "intense musical culmination." The Schubert was precisely those things. It is of an enormous scale, both in length and ambition.

Here, all three players played to their fullest potential — Lester running, falling and soaring behind the cello, Marwood's violin singing and sobbing and Tomes' piano positively dominating the proceedings, in an astonishingly confident manner.

An assortment of tonalities, harmonies and melodies melded to form an all-encompassing piece — truly a marathon-like test of will for the performers and the audience.

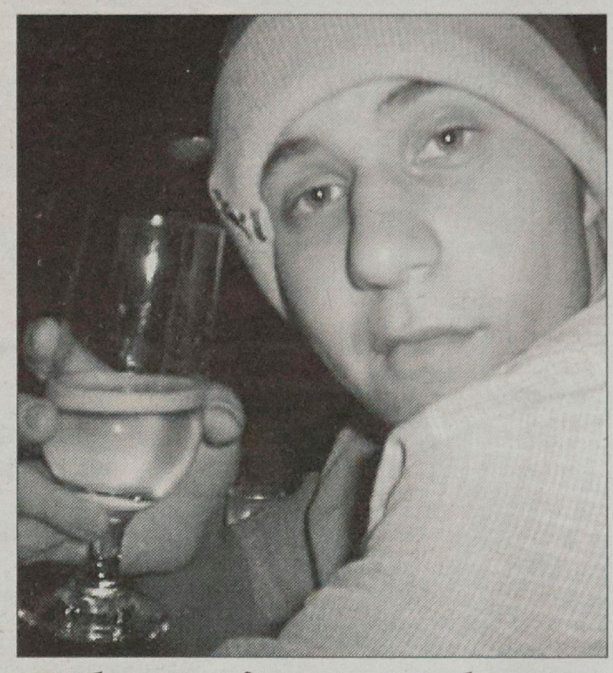
Pianist Tomes saved her best work for last, unleashing gossamer runs and hard, inflected chord progressions with ease. If any individual stands out in this group, it is she. But Marwood, Lester and Tomes are all artists of the first order. Their connection and synthesis in the Florestan Trio is a great boon to the world of classical music.

Albert Bitici

On Saturday evening, Anthony Marwood (on violin), Richard Lester (on cello) and Susan Tomes (on piano) of the Florestan Trio performed in the Center for the Arts Concert Hall. Highlights included works by Haydn and Smetana.

OFFAIR

WITH ALEX GILMAN



Gilman's Tuesday night power hour

NAME OF YOUR SHOW? The Shaquille O'Neal Power Hour (with co-DJ Alex Recalt).

SHOW'S TIME-SLOT? Tuesdays from 10:00-11:30 p.m.

DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF MUSIC THAT YOU PLAY. Hip-hop so funky Flava Flav himself will magically emerge from your radio and smoke a blunt with you while you play with the giant clock on his neck. Also, we play Shaq.

WHY DO YOU PLAY THE MUSIC YOU DO? They won't let us play our other love, which is Born Again Christian death metal/industrial techno.

WHAT THREE ALBUMS ARE IN YOUR CD PLAYER RIGHT NOW? Kanye West's "College Dropout," Stevie Wonder's "Innervisions" and UNKLE's "Psyence Fiction."

WHAT BOOK IS ON YOUR BEDSIDE TABLE RIGHT NOW? "The Color Of Water" by James McBride.

BEST ALBUM OF ALL TIME? In hip-hop, probably Nas' "Illmatic" or DJ Shadow's "Entroducing."

IF YOU COULD RESURRECT ANY FAMOUS DEAD PERSON AND HAVE LUNCH WITH HIM/HER, WHO WOULD IT BE? Rob from Mili Vanili.

GREATEST MUSICAL TRIUMPH EVER? David Hasselhoff, who is living proof that the German people can turn anyone into a pop idol as long as he has enough chest hair.

GREATEST MUSICAL TRAVESTY EVER? Leonard Nimoy's "Ballad of Bilbo Baggins." The music video has to be seen to be believed.

VINYL, CASSETTE, CD OR MP3? Vinyl.

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE? Mind Bullets.

CAFFEINATED SUBSTANCE OF CHOICE? Red Bull.

PROCTOR, ROSS OR FREEMAN? I don't get the "Proctor hipness" thing. Freeman when it's not cold.

FAVORITE VIRTUE? Generosity.

FAVORITE VICE? Betting on Taiwanese rooster fights.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST KNOWN FOR? My immense contributions to Campus Security last year as a member of the elite Public Safety Student Patrol.

WHAT QUOTE DO YOU LIVE BY? "To succeed in the world it is not enough to be stupid, you must also be well-mannered." — Voltaire

DO YOU SUFFER FROM ANY PHOBIAS? Sharks/giant squid/underwater things. And Erik Estrada. He's a creepy dude.

MOST TREASURED POSSESSION? My dad's record collection from college.

WHICH WORD OR PHRASE DO YOU MOST OVERUSE? "Dude."

IN TEN YEARS, YOU WILL BE? In a Mexican prison.

— ERIKA MERCER, ARTS EDITOR

THE REEL CRITIC

BY AARON STRUMWASSER

TITLE
SPACECAMP (1986)
DIRECTOR
HARRY WINER

All of us have at least one movie that we loved as toddlers and cannot bring ourselves to hate as adults. Toddlers, watching only what their parents allow, are a rather passive audience. So after someone gave my family 1986's "SpaceCamp," it temporarily became my all-time favorite movie. It was either that or "Jane Fonda's Workout."

As you might guess, "SpaceCamp" is about a space-themed summer camp — a place for those of us who, citing untraceable allergies and a fear of potato-sack racing, wish to remain indoors and yet have an out-of-home experience. But "SpaceCamp" transcends the summer camp genre. It even transcends the *space* camp genre, because its second half takes place, quite convincingly, in space. What sends our campers and their counselor into space is not a convenient NASA malfunction but a Star Wars-obsessed camper named Max (played by Joaquin Phoenix) and his only friend, a robot named Jinx.

Even though Jinx looks and sounds like an aborted version of R2-D2, it can listen to Max and console him. Since Max has no idea that Jinx is programmed to do whatever is asked of him (which seems to explain their friendship), he expects nothing to come of his if-only-I-were-in-space monologue. By the time Jinx hears Max's rant, about 20 minutes into our camp experience, we hope that Jinx will take matters into its own man-made hands, because summer camp movie clichés are on the verge of destroying "SpaceCamp."

Most notably — and hilariously — there is the budding but forbidden romance between the too-cool-for-camp guy and the stars-keep-me-up-at-night girl. Counselors catch them, of course, hardly in the act, where our hero had said no counselor would ever look — across the water from the NASA launch pad. But leave location scouting up to Jinx. During a simulation that allows a team of campers to rumble in the seats of a space shuttle for a supposedly simulated 10-second countdown, Jinx lives up to his name.

Soon after the crew is in orbit, the grandeur of space is dwarfed by the need to survive, to find a nearby space station with oxygen tanks. If they can't breathe, we learn, they will die. And if they die, the movie won't be long enough for theatrical release.

Fortunately, the counselor falls unconscious, letting each camper find his purpose. Max, small yet adventurous, wiggles his way alone through the oxygen tank-filled space station. The scientific-minded guy analyzes an on-board "How To" manual. The eccentric, pseudo-ditzy girl remembers to use Morse code. And our would-be couple steers them all home.

Logistics aside, "SpaceCamp" is a classic in the vein of "War Games" and "Explorers" — movies with characters who think so big that any viewer smaller than a beer keg is inspired to think, too. Like the crew, young audiences learn from "SpaceCamp," however unoriginally, that there is no place like home. With spring vacation nearing, I can say that instead of going any place exotic, I am flying home, where there is a videocassette that can send unsuspecting campers into space and a college student into nostalgic reverie.

Real women think for themselves

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

Middlebury College's annual Alianza Latinoamericana y Caribeña Symposium, which took place last Thursday through Saturday, included a screening of the independent film "Real Women Have Curves." The screening was followed by a discussion with the vivacious writer of the 2002 film's screenplay, Josefina Lopez.

Lopez also wrote the original 1990 stage play "Real Women Have Curves," basing the story on her own experience as an undocumented worker in an East Los Angeles sewing factory.

The film's protagonist Ana (America Ferrara), a first generation Mexican American teenager living in East Los Angeles, has just graduated from Beverly Hills High School. On her last day of school, a caring teacher encourages her to apply to college, but Ana knows that her overbearing, hypercritical mother, Carmen (Lupes Ontiveros) would never allow her to attend, insisting instead that Ana work for her sister at their sewing factory. Ana is unhappy there, since all that the women seem to talk about is their desire to be thin and to find a man to marry.

The movie was highly entertaining and its overall message of female freedom came across effectively.

She yearns to go to college and to meet people who value her for her thoughts and writing and not for her appearance. Eventually she finds the courage to apply to Columbia University. She gets in.

In the question and answer session following the screening, Lopez explained that, although the film was largely based on her own experiences as an adolescent woman, it was not her relationship with her mother, but with her father, that was so difficult. Lopez chose to emphasize the relationship between the mother and daughter, however, because she didn't want the movie to be misinterpreted as an attack against Latino males. "I wanted it to be all about Latino women!" she exclaimed.

Lopez also described the film's difficult casting process, explaining that they did not want any non-Latino actors playing Latino parts. In collaboration with HBO and director Patricia Cardoso, Lopez said they wanted to keep it real and "do it right," avoiding big names like Jennifer Lopez that make a movie glamorous but less authentic. She said this was difficult because the movie business rarely supports full-bodied woman, Latina or not.

The movie was highly entertaining and its overall message of female freedom came across effectively. Funny, yet loaded lines like, "Pretty dresses aren't just for skinny girls" and "Mom, I don't watch Spanish soap operas," exemplify the movie's playful mood.

The acting seemed lacking, especially that of Ferrara. Close-ups of her face betrayed strained expressions, which were sometimes painful

Courtesy Photo

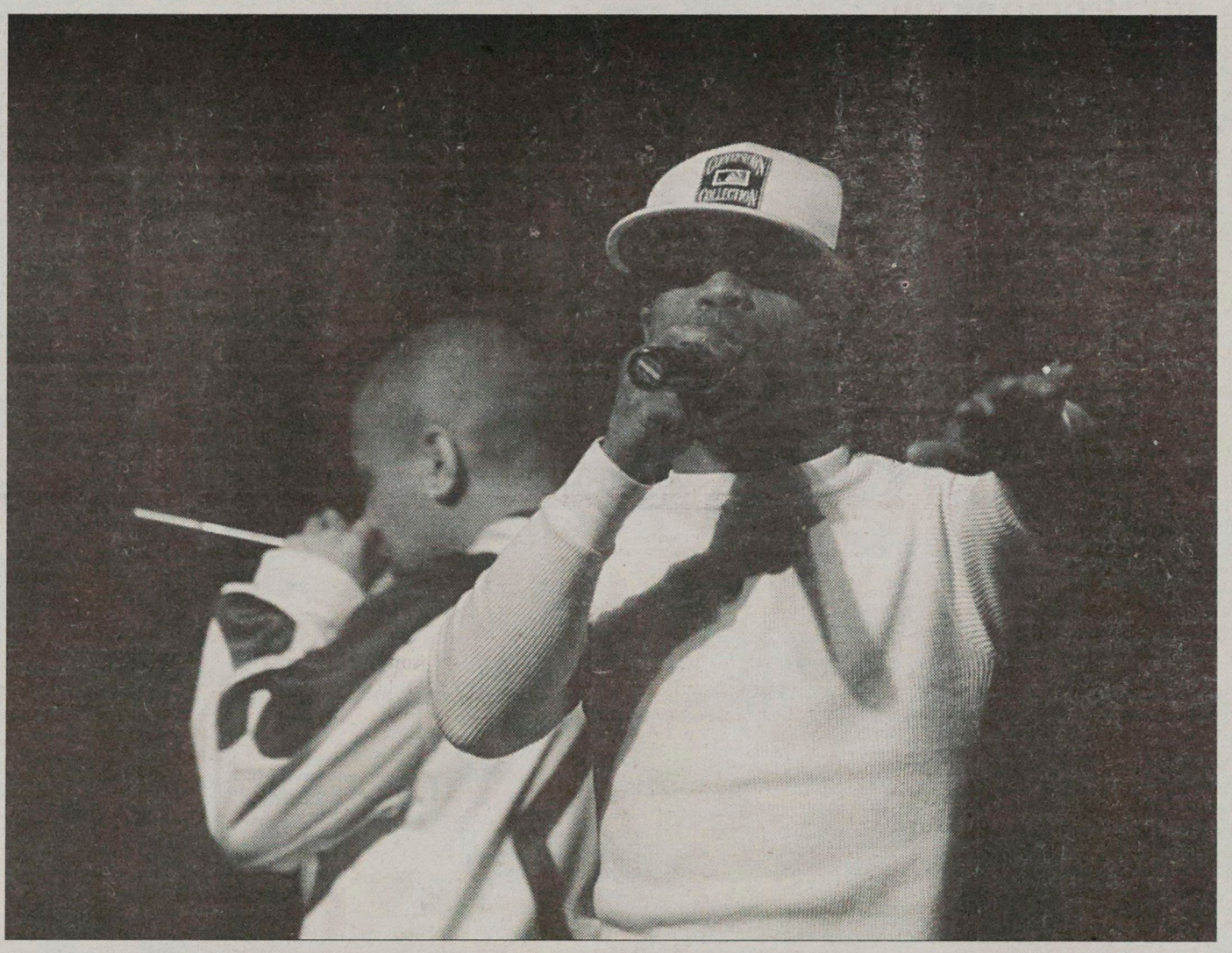
to witness. Another minor fault of the movie was the dialogue, at times too blunt, as if assaulting the viewer with themes that had been layed out several times. However, the film's independent status and Lopez's insistence on casting new Latino talent mitigates the faults.

As for the event itself, the Bicentennial Hall screening room overflowed with laughter and women chatting in Spanish before the movie started. Few males attended the event. Refreshingly informal, film viewers applauded loudly at funny comments and scandalous scenes. There was definitely a sense of camaraderie in the room that night.

A funny thing happened when part way through the film a non-Spanish speaking person asked if the English subtitles could be turned on — which, to the relief of many fledgling Spanish speakers, were. Although the film is predominantly in English, there is also quite a bit of Spanish spoken.

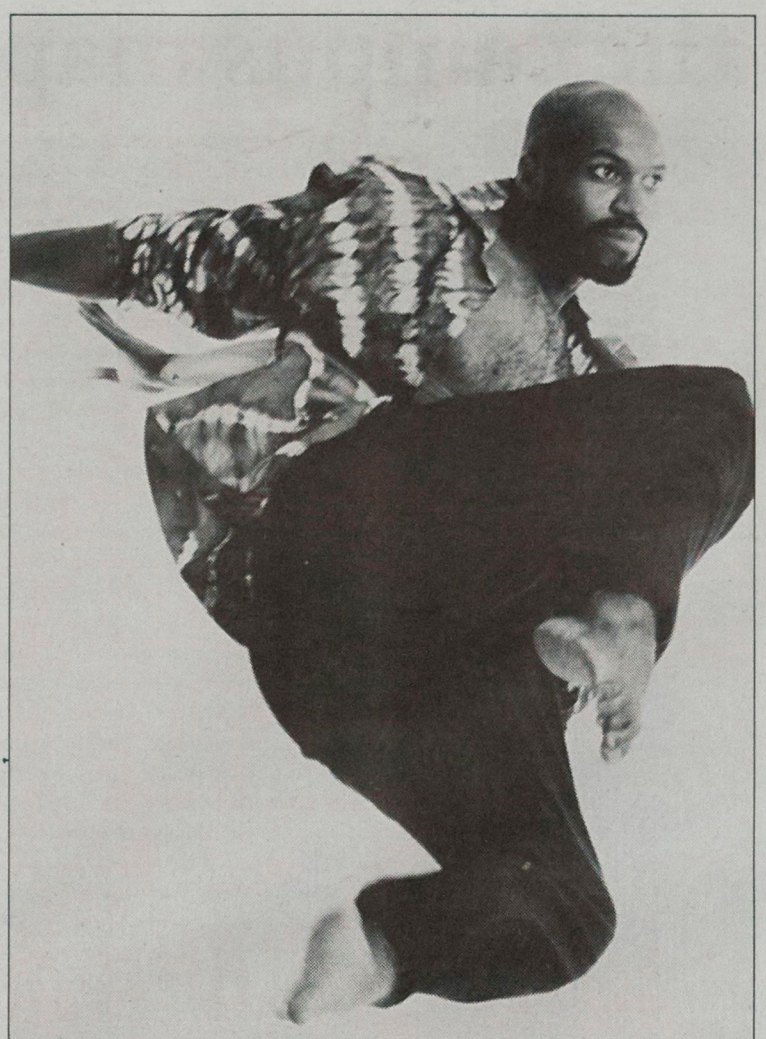
Following the film, Lopez explained that she made a conscious decision to have the actors switch back and forth between Spanish and English in an attempt to authentically portray the reality of many adolescent Latinos like Ana and herself, saying, "I always wanted to see my reality captured on TV."

GENERATION TODAY



Vlad Lodoaba

Exciting, upbeat and booming, the Generation Today (GT): Breakdancing performance livened up the McCullough Social Space with energizing dance moves and hip-hop beats.



Courtesy Photos

Ronald K. Brown and his company in the performance "Ronald K. Brown/Evidence" took to the CFA Dance Theater stage on Friday and Saturday.

Brown leaves mark with 'Evidence'

By Rachel Dunlap
Staff Writer

A middle-aged man to my left gasps. The dance student in front of me wipes her eyes. A shawl-draped mother sitting next to me falls asleep. Like all performance art, the Ronald K. Brown/Evidence dance pieces, "Come Ye/Walking Out the Dark," spurred a multitude of reactions as they were presented on the evenings of March 11 and 12 in the Center For the Arts (CFA) Dance Theater.

As indicated by a lengthy standing ovation and numerous curtain calls, the company succeeded in celebrating and exploring African culture.

The company succeeded in celebrating and exploring African culture.

The program, comprised of two main dance compilations, "Come Ye" and "Walking Out the Dark," featured inspired and visceral movement, music, lights and costumes.

With incredible strength and inexhaustible energy, the company leapt, ran, shook and slid to the vibrant music.

Many of the dances were based upon traditional African choreography blended with modern and jazz movements, and the costumes ranged from modern denim configurations to flowing island-style dresses.

The Robert K. Brown/Evidence contemporary dance group was created by its namesake in 1985. The New York based company consists of eight dancers, one choreographer, five crew members and an entourage of production management.

A Brooklyn native, Brown multi-tasks as artistic director, choreographer and dancer for the company.

After creating work for numerous dance organizations, he designed the company to "share perspectives through modern dance, theater and kinetic storytelling — to offer cultural exchanges [...] with a specific focus on developing African contemporary dance, and discussing issues of race, class, gender and assimilation."

"Come Ye," created in 2003, featured all eight dancers in upbeat and soul-filled pieces set to the music of Nina Simone and Fela Anikulapo Kuti. The dance's zeitgeist could be found in the program note, which proclaimed, "Come Ye" is a call to all those living in fear / all of those willing to fight for their lives / and ultimately peace."

Black and white projections combined with vibrant splashes of lit color focused attention on the performers' message of civil rights recognition, faith and human vitality.

Carefully planned lighting alternately silhouetted outlines of the dancers' muscular bodies and warmly lit their faces, and in one piece lit a moving pathway which the performers followed across the floor.

After a brief intermission, the audience was introduced to "Walking Out the Dark" (2001), a dark and deeply emotional piece partially set to "Sweet Honey in the Rock," composed by Phillip Hamilton '82 and featuring a smaller cast of four dancers.

The dancers' movements and expressions communicated everything from the anguish of slavery to human isolationism and attachment to the earth.

A sharp gasp ran throughout spectators as a shower of pebbles and dirt rained down upon the performers as they slunk along the floor. With fewer performers and concentrated interaction among the performers, "Walking Out the Dark" introduced a level of drama and conflict absent from the showier nature of "Come Ye."

In addition to remarkably accurate movement and sharp choreography, the show's core strength was borne from the dancers' supreme passion and energy.

Sweating, smiling and grimacing the Robert K. Brown/Evidence Company radiated energy.

is it art?

A LOOK AT THOSE WHO DARE TO STRETCH THE CREATIVE LIMITS

Reflections on urban culture — a phrase that sounds like the teaser for another socio-anthro course in urban studies. It's actually the theme of world-renowned photojournalist Jeffrey Aaronson's series on windows in New York City.

Last week in this column, I discussed the emerging art of photoshopping, which has made almost any visual and optical experiment possible. Now I look to straight photography, the art of capturing images and presenting them without any digital manipulation.

Aaronson's recent series of color photographs of window displays and their myriad reflections are wildly expressive and in many instances, psychedelic arrangements of color and form. His images are layered with so much complexity that they look like composite photos.

To capture these revelatory images, he focuses his lenses at close range on window glass and mirrored surfaces in the streets, and he meticulously takes into account the point of view and light conditions. Aaronson uses a digital camera because he likes being able to see his results on the spot. "By reviewing the pictures right away on the camera's LCD screen I could make sure I wasn't in the shot," he says. "And sometimes a tiny shift in the camera position changed the whole relationship between the window and the reflections."

In "East Village Grocery," 2003, the reflections of flowers, local store signs, graffiti-decorated walls and pedestrians conform to the undulating curves of window surface. The photograph transforms reality into a surreal image of vibrantly colored abstracted forms.

Aaronson's photographs capture fleeting moments. In a sense, his style can be likened to Monet's. While the impressionist worked with paint and applied loose brushstrokes to portray those transitory moments of 19th century leisure in France, Aaronson uses a camera to capture one-of-a-kind moments in a 21st century urbanscape. Each day sunlight and shadow create new reflections enabling the artist to make everlasting pictures of disposable window displays.

His photographs are visually mesmerizing. The art critic Margaret Mathews-Berenson summed up his work perfectly: "Seeing his photographs may inspire us to look more closely into the magical depths of reflected surfaces and search for those instants when fragments of New York City appear more surreal than real — taking us out of ourselves into the solitude of the unconscious mind where the cacophony of city life dissolves into silence."

— CHRIS GROSSO, ARTS EDITOR

LITERARY PICKS

BY EDWARD PICKERING

TITLE
THE ENGLISH PATIENT
AUTHOR
MICHAEL ONDAATJE
PUBLICATION DATE
1993

Michael Ondaatje's 1993 Booker Prize winner, "The English Patient," is a sensuous tale of love and loss set in the closing days of World War II. Three years after the novel's publication the film version captured 9 Academy Awards. In contrast to Kazuo Ishiguro's "The Remains of the Day," reviewed last week, the film version of Ondaatje's novel outstrips the words themselves.

"The English Patient" opens in the ruins of hillside villa outside Florence. Allied forces have swept up the Italian peninsula in pursuit of the retreating German army. The two foes have left physical destruction in their wake — a landscape marred by mines, inhabited by shattered bodies. In the villa reside two people, a young Canadian nurse and the mysterious stranger whom she tends — a pilot discovered in the deserts of North Africa, burned beyond recognition. The patient maintains absolute silence on the subject of his identity. Soon, two others join Hana and her ward: Caravaggio, an Italian thief-turned-spy and Kip, an Indian sapper stationed with a bomb disposal unit in Florence.

Hana, Caravaggio, Kip and the English patient have each suffered greatly. Engulfed in flames, the English patient stepped from the wreckage of his downed plane and into the saving hands of a nomadic desert tribe. Caravaggio stole from and spied on German officers in Italy until he was finally caught. They handcuffed him to a table and maimed his hands. Kip, unflinchingly determined and quietly efficient, defuses bombs every day, his life of no more value than the dexterity of his fingers. Hana, overwhelmed by scenes of death, refuses to return to work in a hospital. So, in the hills above Florence, in the devastation of a once opulent villa, she devotes herself to a blackened enigma of a man.

An unseen presence steals within their insulated realm — love. Hana and Kip skirt tentatively around a mutual attraction for each other. Caravaggio burns with a reawakened passion. In the trance of morphine, the English patient delves into the desert scenes of his past, resurrecting a lover long-gone. The recollections of the English patient and Hana and Kip's magnetism propel the novel towards its final revelations.

Ondaatje writes cinematically, fashioning visually arresting scenes. One is tempted to praise his "eloquence," the "sheer beauty of his language" — in short, to extol him in rhapsodic terms. Ondaatje often gets it right, but he writes opaquely at times, in a too self-consciously expressive style. Ondaatje's premise makes for a good read, but his prose is not quite as magical as many critics would have you believe.

Putting Johnson back on the campus map

Vlad Lodoaba

Architect Jean-Paul Carlhian gives a tour of Johnson to a crowd curious about the building's construction and history.

By Joyce Man
Staff Writer

The Christian A. Johnson Memorial Art Building has been revered and insulted over the years. It has been called "the ugliest standing structure ever built." Some students even believe it to be haunted.

Biagio Pergolizzi '05 spends so much time in the building that he may rightfully claim to be its ghost. Delia Conache '05 appreciates its architectural precision "in spite of its problems," while Zsofia Young '06.5 demonstrates just how torn we remain over this concrete and stone edifice on its 35th anniversary — "It's like a Kinder Surprise Chocolate Egg — ugly and cheap on the outside, fun on the inside."

Underpinning its façade, rooms, art studios and stairwells is a bevy of intriguing facts.

The Johnson Week Program set out to dispel the ambiguity once and for all and to prove the worth of the Christian A. Johnson Building as an exemplary architectural achievement.

An idea born in casual conversation between Andrew Rossmeissl '05 and Carl Larson '04, Johnson Week aimed to explain the elements of the building's construction, which make it a highly functional artistic space.

For Larson, the purpose was as simple as the straight geometric lines of the building's design. "Beyond all the fascinating stories behind Johnson's architecture, Andy and I simply enjoy spending time in this space, and we wanted to give it its due," he said.

The week's mélange of events included a gallery exhibition of prefabrication drawings, a tour guided by Johnson's architect, Jean-Paul Carlhian, explaining the ins and outs of each room's design, a suave cocktail hour topped with music provided by the Dick Forman Jazz Group and an art night with a chorus of rock bands.

A knowledge of the building itself leads to a new appreciation for Johnson. Underpinning its façade, rooms, art studios and stairwells is a bevy of intriguing facts.

The building may have more appropriately been called "Two Foot One," as each brick, each concrete slab and every distance between the metal hanging hooks follow two feet increments.

The building is precise down to its most minute details. Asked if the wooden gallery chairs were designed especially for Johnson, Carlhian replied, "Of course. If they are two-foot square, they are designed by me."

Not so apparent at first glance, Johnson's copper roofs are slanted to "introduce light into the rooms." Window openings grow larger as they rise, "allowing deep natural light penetration and enjoyment of the sweeping views offered by such a prominent setting."

Choosing to build on the same north-south axis as Battell, which faces Johnson point-blank, Carlhian anticipated the rising sun's strong glare early in the day and thereby placed classrooms in the west side for sessions in the morning.

Carlhian calls the two bathrooms "the best bathrooms you can find in America — they are happy bathrooms." Two large glass windows flank an extravagant rear-lit mirror and lend liberation to a space which, in other buildings, is often closed and suffocating. And for the few students like Larson who know about it, the windows have an entirely separate function — "From here, you can wave at the women's bathroom."

Photos at Carlhian's talk and at the gallery revealed the building in its more glorious infancy. The floors were covered in blood-red crimson carpet, the sofas were of high-quality leather, and an organ for musical performances occupied a room to the south.

The halls leading back into the second floor had not been blocked, allowing natural rays to flood the pit, which no longer receives nearly as much light.

The studio rooms, boasting large, untinted glass windows, exploit the surrounding landscape. This space, designed for creative endeavors, allows students to interact with the natural setting. Carlhian yokes nature with what he calls, "The greatest conceit of humanity — art."

The room that once housed the organ was designed with acoustics in mind. On either side hang curtains which, when adjusted, can increase or decrease the reverberation time of the music resonating through the room, an element of Coulhian's design which reflects his aggressive pursuit of precision and detail.

Johnson distinguishes itself from all other structures on campus, including the informal setting of the McCullough café-cum-activities complex, the cozy and quiet living room in Ross Fireplace Lounge or the free-and-easy atmosphere of the Center for the Arts. In short, Johnson is something unique.

As students and Middlebury residents entered the brightly lit pit to the swervy chords of the Dick Forman Jazz Group, it became clear how much potential Johnson possessed as a posh, semi-formal social space.

Two levels of mezzanine look down on the grand space, formerly a dance floor, from which the sounds of bass and saxophone emanate. The thick sandblasted concrete banisters are the perfect height for audiences to lean toward the music and to rest their wine glasses while chatting.

Johnson Week has proven that this space has flexibility and functionality. Music lovers may head to the southern organ room, art lovers can run their creative streaks under the view of Vermont's Green Mountains and social butterflies have a chance to communicate and appreciate performances in the building's main body.

Most important, however, Johnson Week has afforded lovers of architecture a chance to hear Carlhian expound Johnson's functionality.

The idea behind constructing the building of simple, sandblasted concrete slabs, bare stone walls and conspicuous beams is to allow the building's occupants to see plainly how each brick and pillar holds up the entire superstructure. As an arts building, Johnson works — "it can expose the mess in all its glory because of the simplicity of the building."

Vlad Lodoaba

The Dick Forman Jazz Group provided tunes for the Johnson Week cocktail hour.

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Men's tennis depth propels team to success

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

The men's tennis team opened its spring season right on track with four wins in two days in the Nelson Recreational Center. On Saturday, Middlebury dominated Brandeis and Colby, and continued the streak against Hamilton and Bates on Sunday.

In a very convincing win, the Panthers took all seven matches away from Brandeis. Brian Waldron '06 overcame his opponent after a scare in the first set (3-6,6-1,6-2). Fellow sophomore extraordinaire Nathan Edmunds was able to win his duel in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2. Captain Alex Meditz '05 won his match also in straight sets 6-3, 6-1. Jeff Oldenburg '06 followed suit, winning a 6-2, 6-1 decision. As well, Justin Ingoglia '05 and Andrew Jacobi '05 won in straight sets to close out the sweep.

Every year the team has gotten better both in the NESCAC and NCAA.

— Alex Meditz '05

Middlebury also won two of the three doubles matches. The Meditz/Oldenburg team won 9-8 and Jacobi paired with Ingoglia dominated 8-4. The complimentary combination of power-hitting Waldron with Edmunds, known for his finesse, did not finish their match.

In the afternoon, Colby fell in similar fashion, with Middlebury taking six of seven matches. Against the White Mules, Middlebury showed its extensive depth, winning with entirely new players.

Ari Beilin '06 defeated Steen Sehnert 6-1, 6-0 while promising first-year George Mayer '07 won in straight sets over Ben Crane (6-3, 6-4). Kevin Bergesen '07, Alex Scott '07 and captain Stuart Brown '04 all won in straight sets to cap off the victory.

That afternoon Middlebury continued strong play on the doubles courts by sweeping the matches. The duo of Edmunds and Waldron pulled off the doubles win 8-7 against Sehnert and Yardi. Similarily, teams of Beilin/Bergesen and Brown/Mayer decisively won their matches 8-5 and 8-6 respectively.

Sunday was, in Yogi Berra's words, "deja-vu all over again." Middlebury defeated Hamilton, taking all seven singles matches in straight sets and easily winning all three doubles matches, losing a total of only three games.

Middlebury also dominated Bates, winning six of the seven matches. Edmunds stumbled in the first set, but pulled out the victory against Hamilton rival Will Wiegaard 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Waldron had some difficulties and fell to Sam Duvall in three sets. Ingoglia's match against Mike Hoverman was the most wrenching, going into two tie breakers with Ingoglia coming out on top in the end winning 6-7, 6-3, 7-6.

Bergesen and Mayer both won in straight sets. Middlebury, again, swept the doubles matches with Bates with the three teams of Waldron/Edmunds, Beilin/Bergesen and Mayer/Brown.

With snow still in patches around campus, it is hard to think about tennis, but the Panthers have been practicing since mid-February and it shows. The team is young, talented and above all determined to settle for nothing but the best. After a strong fall season, Middlebury is ranked fourth in the country, but hopes to move up as the season progresses.

"As a program, we were very pleased with last year's fourth place performance in the country. Yet, with a solid core of returning players and the addition of a couple talented freshmen, the team has evolved into the most competitive, engaged and intense team I have been a member of the past four years," commented Brown.

This is a tight and dedicated team that is well coached and is blessed with more depth than it knows what to do with. I would expect nothing but greatness this spring, and with the season already under way the 4-0 start is very promising.

The real tests will come as the Panthers travel out to southern California for Spring Break where they play UC Santa Cruz (fifth in the country) and Cal Lutheran (third in the country).

"Every year I've been here, the team has gotten stronger and done better both in NESCACs and NCAAs. This year should be no exception," explained Co-Captain Alex Meditz '05.

"Everyone has made great improvements from this fall and while we know we possess the potential to do exceptionally well this year. As Beilin said, 'We're taking the season one stroke at a time.' At the moment, we're putting in long practices to get ourselves ready for Spring Break. Our thoughts do not go much father than that."

PANTHERS TRUE BLUE

Albert Bitici

Zach Foster '06 shows off his Middlebury pride in front of Mead Chapel after a men's hockey victory. Many Panthers displayed their school pride in a big way as Kenyon's attendance records have continued to be broken.

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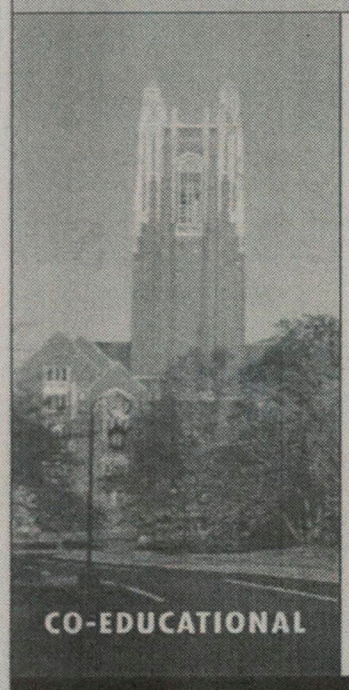

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Andrew Helming's 3-sport action a rare feat

Helming's athleticism translates into soccer, hockey and lacrosse varsity status

By Peter Yordan
Senior Staff Writer

Over the last decade Middlebury College athletics has enjoyed more success and greater prominence than at any other time in the College's history.

With over a dozen national championships and millions of dollars invested in state-of-the-art facilities, Middlebury has skyrocketed to a privileged place atop the firmament of Division III athletics. Yet at the same time one of the College's most enduring symbols of athletic excellence has almost totally disappeared. The once-common three-sport athlete — participating in a varsity sport for each of the fall, winter,and spring seasons — has become nearly a relic of history.

There are a few lonely holdouts struggling against extinction, mostly a handful of dedicated runners who combine cross-country, indoor and outdoor track into one seamless season.

Then there is Andrew Helming '04. A member of the men's varsity soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams, Helming is currently Middlebury's lone true three-sport athlete. "I find that it helps me as an overall athlete to play different sports," said Helming. "It helps you socially, being able to broaden your horizons. There are so many awesome people at Middlebury, playing on these teams opens door to meet all these different people."

Helming is one of "a dying few," according to Athletics Director Russ Reilly. "I don't think there is any question that we have fewer multi-sport athletes now," said Reilly, who over the last couple of decades has watched the number of three-season athletes diminish to as few as five in 2002-2003. "It's mostly because of the fact that kids specialize in one sport from a young age, to their detriment, in my opinion."

There are so many awesome people at Middlebury, playing on these different teams opens doors to meet all these different people.
— Andrew Helming

Helming managed to avoid falling into one sport growing up. "I played a lot of hockey growing up, but I always took the summers off. I always played a lot of other sports."

In high school he played soccer, hockey and lacrosse every year, but it wasn't until his senior year at Middlebury that he tried to repeat the feat. After three years of hockey and lacrosse, Helming decided to try his luck as a senior walk-on on the soccer team. "I just really love the sport. I guess in high school I had the most fun playing soccer. I thought if would be a cool challenge to see if I could play again."

Albert Bitici

Andrew Helming '04 has been able to participate at the varsity level in three sports. This is becoming increasingly rare as athletes struggle to find time and are pressured to specialize. Especially in the NESCAC, where academics are a priority, tri-sport athletes are a rarity.

Dave Saward, head coach of the soccer team was surprised when Helming approached him last spring. "His situation was very rare," said Saward. "I think that had it been any other person I wouldn't have done it. The guy just worked and worked. The reality with Andrew is not just what he brings as an athlete, it's what he brings as a person."

A star on the hockey team, Helming has accepted bit-parts on the soccer and lacrosse squads in exchange for a chance to play sports at the highest level all year long.

"Sometimes it's embarrassing. It's not like I'm a stud in any of the sports, it's just my personality. I like the competition, the camaraderie. It keeps me in a routine."

Yet the number of multi-sport athletes like Helming continues to drop as Middlebury's athletic success increases. "I think that the overall level of play has improved, and people want to concentrate on their sport," said Helming. "A lot of times kids get into Middlebury for specific sports and you want to make sure you do well in that specific sport. You want to contribute the most you can." Indeed, across the board athletes and coaches point to the increased pressure to concentrate year round on one sport from a young age as the major reason for the decrease in well-rounded athletes.

"I really take my hat off to my guys who [play multiple sports]," said Saward. "Over my time here the quality of players in each sport has improved, and it becomes that much harder to do it."

The Athletics Department tries to facilitate multi-sport student-athletes "We want kids that are playing more that one sport," said Reilly. "We do everything we can to encourage it." Reilly noted that student-athletes may influence their teammates who want to try other sports. "I think there's some peer pressure to be involved in their sport year round." He also observed that there is increased academic pressure on students today that makes year-round time commitments more difficult.

A lot of people think I'm crazy, but I don't think of it like that at all.
— Andrew Helming

Helming discounted the idea that there was much overt peer pressure to stick with a single sport, but suggested that many student athletes may feel that "If you don't play your sport year round you're going to get passed by."

Helming also acknowledged that multi-sport athletes often miss the beginning of seasons while they finish up postseason play. Helming missed the lacrosse team's season opener last week in order to play in the NCAA hockey quarterfinals. "You feel guilty because those are the times when you put in the real grunt work with your teammates. What you gain from playing postseason games is so valuable though."

Even with the increased demand for success and post-season championships Helming points out that across the board his coaches have encouraged his multi-sport participation. "Some people might not think that, but they really do support it," he said. NESCAC in general has long worked to make such commitments easier by limiting the length of individual seasons and curtailing out-of-season team activity.

Despite the Athletics Department's endorsement of multi-sport student athletes, change may be difficult. "It's a complex issue that we don't have an answer for," said Reilly. "I wish we did." Helming too is skeptical. "I doubt that Middkids are going to change. I think that generations of athletes can change. I'm sure as hell not going to specialize my kids in one sport."

For his part, he feels proud of his three-sport status. "A lot of people think I'm crazy, but I don't think of it like that at all," he said. "I just feel lucky. I'm a senior, it's my last chance to play competitive sports. Why would I want to go run on a treadmill?"

Women's lax cans Colby in opening contest

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

Entering a season ranked number one, like the Middlebury women's lacrosse team did this year, comes with added pressure and expectation. Suddenly, instead of being another team in the NESCAC hoping to win a championship, you become *the* team, the team everyone else is bitterly chasing. Almost instantly, everyone else is waiting to see you fail.

One of those teams gunning for Middlebury early on was Colby, a perennially aggressive, physical team and Middlebury's first opponent of the '04 season, squaring off last Saturday on the turf at Bates College. Middlebury handled its opponent efficiently, winning 8-3, but the team refuses to be sated with the early win, knowing that their game needs to be extra sharp for a bid at the Division III title. The Panthers came out strong against Colby, scoring a few quick goals and keeping control over the pace of the action. They went into the half leading 7-0, with their defense doing an excellent job of controlling Colby's attack.

In the second half, Colby came out with a vengeance, showing a fire that led to score three well-earned goals. Colby also held the Panthers to only one goal in the half.

A few individuals dominated the offensive game for the Panthers. Senior captain Nuala O'Donohoe had three goals herself, as well as assisting on another. Sophomore wonder-girl Michelle Bergofsky had two goals and one dime herself, as did Alison Perencivich '06. Other strong players were first-year Kim Walker and junior Caitlin McCormick, who contributed strongly on defense.

Women's Lacrosse
Saturday, March 12

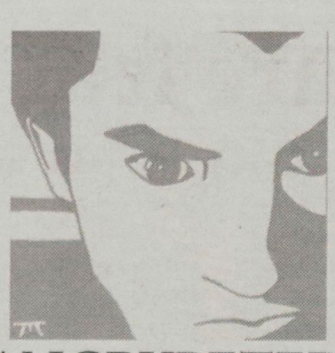
Middlebury	8
Colby	3

In fact, defense was the story of the day, punishing most attempts by Colby. While Middlebury concedes that it is working with a young, relatively inexperienced team and has been playing only each other for the past two weeks, the defense was strong from gate to post, inspiring confidence in the rest of the squad. "Any time [a team] lets in only three goals, it is a success, and we were definitely happy with the effort," said Bergofsky. While the team is still working out a few kinks, mostly just shaking the rust off from the limited indoor practices, this first effort was certainly a success, proving to many on the team that they have what it takes to be extremely successful.

However, Colby was just the beginning. This next week, while many students are finding warm beaches and lax rules, the Panthers season will be getting under full swing.

The team travels to Connecticut College, Gettysburg and Salisbury State to play games. While Conn College should be a pushover, Gettysburg and Salisbury State, both ranked in the top 10, should provide strict competition for the women.

While the win over Colby is encouraging, the Panthers are just getting started, thirsting for heavy competition to sink their teeth into, ready to live up to the pre-season hype.



ANGRYPETER

BY PETER YORDAN

Is there any trend more annoying to a senior than the unsightly proliferation of cell phones among new students? My friends and I talk about this, do other upperclassmen? I bring it up because I thought it fitting that the anonymous e-mail from the latest critic of my column was sent from one. Anyways, I don't bear any especial ill will to the touchy young upstarts from the class of '07.5 who decided to have a little fun with me at last week's hockey game, and I suppose a little notoriety is a good thing.

Still, I'm going to leave behind subgroups with too much free time and a penchant for mapquesting me and concentrate on something that really has me steamed. Specifically, I'm talking about the unholy intersection of the commons system and intramural sports at the college. Like most upperclassmen, I'm skeptical of the commons system — in the way Michael Moore is skeptical of Dick Cheney. Yet I wouldn't mind it so much if it just confined itself to upsetting residential life and dining services. I draw the line, however, at the school's absurd attempts over recent years to impose it on intramurals.

Over the last three years students participating in intramural sports have been ordered to form commons (or social house, while they are still here) affiliated teams for in order to compete for the (cough) coveted Cameron Cup. The new rules also require that a stringent majority of team members must be from the same commons, lest students mingle with members of alien commons. The Board of Trustees and the Administration foisted this concept upon the Athletics Department several years ago in an attempt to make the commons system a presence in all aspects of student life. Never mind that in practice it is an unwieldy obstacle to greater participation in intramural sports. I'm sorry, but I have friends in many different commons, and I have a greater allegiance to them than to the particular commons in which I reside. I've had the same soccer and hockey team for four years, and I don't think that I should have to worry about making sure 60% of them are in Ross with me.

I suppose the administration assumes that in a few years when the commons become hermetically sealed then students will naturally only want to be on commons-specific teams, but I think that the school should do whatever it can to encourage intramural participation rather than needlessly hampering it. I think there still is a place in athletics for the commons system and the Cameron Cup. Why doesn't the school organize a commons Olympics every year where students from each commons compete in a series of fun events for the cup? It would be a great spectator draw, great publicity for the commons system and it would get the commons out of a place where they do more harm than good.

Women's tennis has perfect weekend

By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's tennis team got their season off to the best possible start last weekend after romping past Brandeis and Hamilton. Winning all nine matches against both teams, the Panthers ended the weekend with a cumulative record of 18-0, setting the ball rolling for another enormously successful season. The bar has now been set though, and the women know this sort of performance will need to be repeated time after time as the season continues.

In singles, Claire Smyser '07, Lauren Ready '05 and Kristin Baker '04 dropped just four games among them against Brandeis, setting a platform from which the Panthers could build. The other three victories were wrapped up by Amy Roche '07, Jackie Ross '07 and Sandy Spring '04, giving the Panthers a clean sweep of the singles under the roof of the Nelson Recreational Center. In doubles, the Brandeis women found the Panthers to be equally hostile, picking up just four games in the three matches. Ross/Spring ran out 8-1 winners, as did the duo of Roche and Jena Siegel '04 by a score line of 8-0, while Baker/Smyser put the icing on the cake with a 8-3 victory to blank the visitors. All in all it was a performance that illustrated an enormous gulf in ability between the teams, and left the Panthers primed and ready to take on Hamilton later in the day.

If anyone thought that the match-up against Brandeis was a mismatch, they had another thing coming when Hamilton faced off against Middlebury in the afternoon. Overall, nine matches were played — six in the singles competition and three in the doubles — with Middlebury winning each of them by a landslide.

Albert Bitici

Kristin Baker '04 opened strong while Middlebury blanked its weekend opponents, Brandeis and Hamilton.

The Panthers won 15 unanswered sets against Hamilton, dropping just 12 games in total, and winning 96. Every woman on the team was able to control the game and the result never really looked in any doubt as Middlebury pounded home shot after shot. When all was said and done in the singles, Roche, Spring, Smyser and Ready had all picked up their second singles win of the day, while Maren Messing '06 and Emily Holick '07 won their first matches of the spring season. Siegel/Roche and Baker/Smyser both won their second doubles matches of the day, while Messing and Rebeccah Duvoisin '06 teamed up to bring the curtain down on a phenomenal day of Middlebury tennis. Siegel commented, "it was great that everyone could contribute at least a point. It doesn't happen all that often."

There is no doubt that the Panthers will play other teams throughout the season that will provide a stiffer challenge, but this weekend was all about Middlebury. While many of us will be on spring break in the upcoming week, the women's tennis team will not enjoy such a luxury. The Panthers will play matches against Colby and Carleton as well as compete in the Barton College Tournament in Wilson, North Carolina, before classes resume again.

Altitude takes toll at NCAAs

Continued from page 28

their performance with the men finishing seventh and the women eighth.

"At the NCAA's," commented Nordic Coach Terry Aldrich, "we were clearly at a disadvantage due to the altitude, and the fact that most of the western schools fielded teams composed primarily of former national team skiers from Scandinavia didn't help."

Nevertheless, Garrot Kuzzy '06 took his customary position at the head of the Panther pack, finishing 12th overall in the 20K race (54:12), a mere 1:01 off the winning time. Marshall Greene '04 followed a few behind in 22nd (56:40) followed by Colin Rodgers '04 in 24th (57:42). Greene suffered from a broken pole early in the race, but was able to recover well enough to finish fifth among easterners providing a strong finish to his collegiate career.

Kuzzy '06 was also the top Middlebury racer in the 10K freestyle race finishing an impressive fourth overall with a time of 22:04, only 37 seconds off the winning time set by Henning Dybendal of the University of Utah. Greene and Rodgers followed in 30th and 33rd with times of 24:03 and 24:23 respectively.

On the women's side of the equation, Kate Whitcomb '04 was the top Middlebury performer, finishing 21st in the 15K race with a time of 55:38. Claire Anderson '06 was 30th with a time of 56:18 and Kate Newick '04 was 33rd (57:04). In the 5K free race, Newick took the lead for the Panthers, placing 13th with a time of 12:25, only 30 seconds off the winner. Anderson moved in behind her in 20th (12:45) and Whitcomb closed the deal in 31st (13:03).

Considering the disadvantage Middlebury had in going to high altitude and arriving later than other schools, the skiers did remarkably well. In the 5K, Newick was the top Eastern female skier, and Whitcomb's 21st place in the 15K was the second finishing spot for Eastern skiers.

Kuzzy's fourth place finish in the 10K skate should not be overlooked. "He had one of the top performances ever by a Middlebury male cross country skier," explained Coach Aldrich. Kuzzy's fourth place finish was only two tenths of a second off third. Aldrich went on to say, "For Garrot to have such an incredible result at altitude against such a strong field was one of the most impressive performances I have ever witnessed in my 29 years at Middlebury. He truly has a great career ahead of him." Additionally, Kuzzy's 12th place finish in the classic 20K was good enough to be the third Easterner to finish.

"Things didn't come together," commented Aldrich, for Rodgers who had a disappointing week. Nevertheless, as Coach Aldrich point out, "he has a had a great career at Middlebury, has always been a top 10 finisher for us in the East and is clearly recognized by his peers as one of the top collegiate skiers in the East."

In addition, Middlebury skiing's seventh place finish was the top amongst Division III schools. Even with the cumbersome altitude of the West, Middlebury was better than most. "I have never been more proud of any team, not just for their results, but for their commitment, dedication, and the way they represented Middlebury," explained Aldrich.

Stepping back from this past week's National Championship and taking in the season as a whole, the ski teams have rewritten team history. It was truly a historic year with Middlebury winning five of the six carnivals after never having won since the inception of the coed championships in 1983. The Nordic team may have been hindered at the NCAAs but they won 10 of the 11 events in the East and the Nordic men won every relay event.

There is no doubt that Middlebury was the top team from the East this year, with six skiers named to the EISA All-East Team.

Middlebury has a team flush with young talent that should be dominant in years to come. "There is no doubt that we will have a target on our back now," commented Carey. "Everyone will be coming hard in the next few years, we cannot get complacent just because we had one good year." Carey, who is in his first year as the Alpine coach, is already looking ahead to the upcoming seasons. And finally, for those who are looking ahead, next years NCAAs are in the East again, where altitude will not be a problem. Look out America, Middlebury is not going to settle for seventh in the future.

Semi's in store for women

Continued from page 28

Middlebury could not increase its lead and headed into the third period still on top 2-0.

In the third, Elmira picked up its pace of play, and a great individual effort by Laura Hurd halfway through the period cut the Panther lead in half. The Soaring Eagles' leading scorer beat two defenders and roofed a backhander over the shoulder of Kate Kogut '06.

That would be the only shot of the night that got through the Panther's rock-solid goaltender, as she and the Panther defense withstood a late flurry of Elmira scoring chances and held on for the win. The Panthers rushed the ice after the final buzzer, celebrating the school's first trip to the final four in the tournament's brief NCAA history.

Plattsburgh and Middlebury will face off this weekend for the third time this season. The Panthers defeated the Cardinals on both occasions, each in tightly contested one-goal games. Much more will be on the line this time around, and the Panthers will need to be on top of their game if they wish to advance.

Said Captain Jean Butler '04, "We are excited for a great weekend of hockey and focusing all our attention right now on Plattsburgh. It's tough to beat a good team three times in one season, so we'll have to be at our best." A bearth in the national title game goes to the winner.

Men's lax dispatches Colby

By David Freedman
Sports Editor

Middlebury's men's lacrosse team opened its season against Colby College on Saturday with a methodic 12-5 victory.

The Panthers scored the game's first three goals, took nearly twice as many shots on net and controlled possession for most of the afternoon despite an even margin of face-offs won.

"It was a good start," Head Coach Erin Quinn said. "We played particularly well on the defensive end."

Men's Lacrosse

Saturday, March 13

Middlebury	12
Colby College	5

Eric Krieger '04 and the rest of the defense established their dominance early, holding Colby to one goal in the first half.

Charley Howe '04 picked up where he left off last year and notched the game's first goal off a strong power move from behind the net nearly four minutes in. Howe would score four on the day and assisted on two more to help lift Middlebury to the win.

"The offense had a good day and was able to possess the ball and create a number of scoring opportunities in different ways," Howe said. "Hopefully the team will continue to gel, and I hope we can start to finish scoring chances with more efficiency [on offense]."

The Panthers faced a zone defense for most of the day, but were able to break down Colby's long poles for solid scoring opportunities.

Jamie Duke '05 and Bob Wannop '04 put the Panthers ahead 3-0 near the end of the quarter with unassisted goals almost two minutes apart.

Middlebury's offense picked up momentum as the game went on, and became more efficient and fluid after each possession. Mike Saraceni '04 got his first goal of the season five minutes into the second quarter off a quick feed from Andrew Giordano '04, his first of two assists. Saraceni then assisted on Howe's second goal of the afternoon to make the game 5-1.

Middlebury worked the ball around Colby's net for the remainder of the half until Howe found Mark Foster '05 cutting to the goal to put the game out of reach with 15 seconds left.

For much of the second half Middlebury played just as aggressively as the first, with Krieger starting the attack on clears all the way from behind the net.

The Panthers stretched the lead to as much as 11-2 by the fourth quarter. Nick Bastis '07 scored two quick finishes for the first points of his career off assists from Howe and J.P. Coviello '06.

The Panthers next match-up will be a big test against Springfield College on March 17, a dominant offensive team that played Middlebury to a tough 11-9 decision in the opening round of last year's NCAA tournament.

"Wednesday is a huge test in Springfield and will say a lot about the direction this years team is going to take," Howe added.

Albert Bitici

The men's lacrosse squad braves the cold during preseason practices. The Panthers easily triumphed over the Colby White Mules last Saturday.

Norwich again for Panthers

Continued from page 28

Looking to avenge a malicious slashing penalty from a few years back, the Panthers took no mercy while piling up 52 shots. With first period goals from Darwin Hunt '07 and a wacky deflection by Kevin Cooper '04, the first intermission found the Panthers in the driver's seat with a 3-0 advantage.

This Cooper goal was only a taste of what the senior had planned.

Men's Hockey

Saturday, March 13

Middlebury	9
Wentworth	1

After absolutely dominating the Jaguar defense all night long, he called it a day after tallying three goals and two assists.

When asked about Saturday's happenings, Cooper said, "Being a senior, it's obviously an exciting win and it's great to be headed back to the final four. I have just been trying to contribute as best as I can."

The second period was more of the same. With cheers of "60 minute power play" ringing out from the raucous student section, Adam Foote '04, Cooper and Patrick Nugent '05 all added to the Panther goal-a-thon.

Superb puck movement and a defense that wouldn't quit left Wentworth befuddled and paralyzed. Hoping to rally behind a new goalkeeper, the Jaguar coaching staff replaced Banghoo with second-string netminder Bryce McFadden.

The Panthers steamrolled McFadden for three more tallies. Brian Phinney '05 found nylon early in the period while Cooper and Nugent added more to their game totals. Middlebury showed no let down throughout the uncharacteristically physical match.

The Jaguars were unable to solve goalie Marc Scheuer '04 until early in the third, and they were in no way ready for the Panther strike force. Behind all these goals stood an unyielding defense led by the ever-present Mike Velez '04. The Panthers finished checks while tripping up Wentworth all night long. After this thorough thumping the Panthers waited for the semifinal pairings to be announced.

Away from Kenyon arena, no surprises were expected and none came about as Norwich advanced against underdog Hobart in a wild 9-5 free-for-all. And so, the always-intense Panther/Cadet rivalry will have another chapter written this next weekend.

This season's previous meeting resulted in a lopsided and season defining 6-2 victory. While commenting on the semifinals, Cooper said, "We love playing Norwich. They are a great team and we are always at our best against those guys. We are all confident and we have never been more ready."

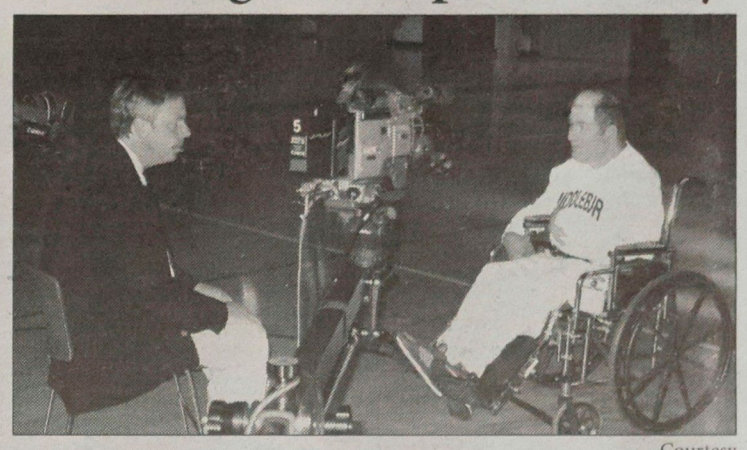
As this group of seniors leads the Panthers into their seventh final four in 10 years, their confidence is high and their expectations higher. The trip up to Norwich will be more than a scenic drive two days from now.

It will be the road to a championship for Middlebury and their competitors from St. Norbert and Plattsburgh, with every mile representing years of practice, thousands of games and innumerable title hopes and dreams.

The Panthers are poised to reclaim the trophy that hasn't been seen on the Middlebury trophy shelves since 1999. Cooper said, "We're going to go out hard every 20. We're going to be flying the full 60 minutes and all I have to say is that the other teams better be ready for us."

SPORTSBRIEFS

Varno segment up for Emmy



Courtesy

The ESPN segment that featured Middlebury's own Butch Varno and portrayed the long-standing relationship between him Middlebury athletes recently received an Emmy nomination for "Outstanding Short Feature." The segment, which aired on SportsCenter in late December, will face competition from pieces done by ABC's Monday Night Football, NBC and HBO. The awards will be presented at the 25th Annual Sports Emmy awards April 19 in New York City. Varno, a super fan of Middlebury athletics who has cerebral palsy, has never missed a basektball or football game over the years due to the time-honored tradition of "picking up Butch." This touching story has recieved national attention before. Last March Rick Reilly penned one of his famous columns in *Sports Illustrated* that captured the image of this true friendship.

— RYAN REESE, ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Middlebury to host Final Four

Middlebury's Chip Kenyon Arena will be the host site of this year's women's hockey NCAA Championship Final Four. This weekend will mark the first time the semifinals has been hosted by the Panthers since the NCAA sanctioned the tournament for the winter of 2001-2002. Middlebury's women's team will be skating in the NCAA Final Four for the first time when the puck hits the ice at 7 p.m. against Plattsburgh State University this Friday. Manhattanville College will take on the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in the earlier semifinal at 3:30 p.m. The Championship match will take place on Saturday at 7 p.m., while the third place consolation game will take place at 3:30 p.m. Tickets for this weekend's tournament will be sold at the door. A weekend pass for all four games is $20 for adults $12 for students. Tickets for the individual days will cost $12 for adults and $6 for students. Middlebury has already beaten Plattsburgh twice by a score of 3-2 on both occasions this season.

— DAVID FREEDMAN, SPORTS EDITOR

UVM gets automatic NCAA bid

Courtesy

With a dominating 72-53 victory over the University of Maine last Saturday, the University of Vermont won a place in the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament. This victory gave the Catamounts the America East title and an automatic bid to the big dance. This marks UVM's second tournament appearance in school history. Last year, they fell at the hands of first-seeded Arizona in first round action. The Catamounts drew the 15th seed and will face the second seeded University of Connecticut. There are always Cinderella stories in this fabled tournament and UVM will look to make a huge upset. The game will be in Buffalo, N.Y., on Thursday March 18th. With all tickets already sold out, the Vermont faithful have readied themselves to travel with the team. UVM is obviously excited to participate in the tournament and realizes it faces an uphill climb. They look competitive though, and there is little doubt they will turn some heads while playing on a truly national stage.

— R. R.

Pink panthers earn ninth

The Middlebury women's swim team saw their season draw to a close last weekend when the Panthers competed in the NCAA Tournament. The Panther team took ninth place in the competition out of the 53 teams that took to the pool. Lizzy DeWitt '04, Sarah Groff '04, Teague Douglas '06 and Barbara Van der Veer '07 made up the 800-freestyle relay team for Middlebury that was the highlight for the Panthers. Coming home in a time of 7:42.31, they set a new varsity record and placed third.

DeWitt, Douglas and Van der Veer teamed up again, this time with Martha Goebel '04, for the 400-freestyle, placing sixth in the event, while DeWitt, Goebel and Van de Veer swam with Taylor Bolz '04 in the 200-medley relay, coming home in eighth place. Van de Veer completed an excellent personal tournament in the 50-freestyle, placing 10th overall with a time of 24.45, leading Middlebury in the individual events. The tournament concluded a great season for the swimmers and while a number of seniors will depart the team, a strong group of younger talent will be sure to fill their shoes when next season rolls around.

— TOM McCANN, SPORTS EDITOR

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campus sports

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2004

GAMES TO WATCH

MEN'S LACROSSE
VS. NEW ENGLAND
MAR. 21 | 1 PM | TURF

WOMEN'S HOCKEY
VS. PLATTSBURGH
MAR. 19 | 7 PM | KENYON

Panthers want their trophy back

Seniors pave the way to seventh Final Four in 10 years

Albert Bitici

Patrick Nugent '05 finds the back of the net against Wentworth's Raj Banghoo. The Panthers comprehensively downed the Jaguars in a 9-1 victory.

By Ryan Reese
Assistant Sports Editor

Champagne Hockey. This is the only way to describe the play of the Middlebury men's hockey team this past Saturday night. In the NCAA quarterfinal action, the Panthers had sniper-like accuracy, unparalleled tenacity and an uncompromising defense. Only superlatives can describe Middlebury's comprehensive 9-1 thrashing of the Wentworth Institute of Technology. When images of perfection and glory abound, one description stands alone as worthy. Every aspect of the game was beautiful. The amazing goals, acrobatic saves, graceful maneuvers, bone crushing blows and every poignant and memorable moment came together to form this icy masterpiece. It truly was Champagne Hockey.

The entire contest was a mismatch. The Jaguars never found themselves able to compete with the strong and ready Panther squad. Middlebury jumped out early as Evgeny Saidachev '07 converted a Jeff Smith '06 centering pass only 45 seconds after the opening face off to break open the floodgates. The Panthers continued to rip apart the Wentworth goalie Raj Banghoo.

See Norwich, page 27

Women's hockey to host big dance

Albert Bitici

Lorna Gifis '05 battles for the puck against an Elmira skater. The Panthers defeated the two-time defending champions by a count of 2-1 on Friday night.

By Mike Kennedy
Staff Writer

A few weeks back, the Middlebury women's hockey team lost a coin flip to Bowdoin that gave the Polar Bears the right to host the NESCAC finals.

Women's Hockey

Friday, March 12

Middlebury	2
Elmira	1

Bowdoin took advantage of the home ice and captured the title with a 4-1 win over the Panthers. It seems only fitting that with Middlebury's 2-1 NCAA quarterfinal victory over Elmira, they will now play host to the Division III Final Four for the first time in school history. The Panthers face off against Plattsburgh Friday night at the Chip Kenyon Arena, while Manhattanville and Wisconsin Stevens-Point will play in the first semi-final that afternoon. Middlebury last won the NCAA tournament in 2001.

Elmira came to town this past weekend having defeated the Panthers once already this season on their home ice — a 2-1 victory in January. The Soaring Eagles were no strangers to the NCAA tournament either, winning the past two NCAA titles. Middlebury clearly had its hands full heading into the quarterfinal matchup.

In the opening period, Middlebury jumped out to the early lead on a goal by Lindsey Jones '05, who finished off a nice centering pass from linemate Liz Yale-Loehr '06 to put the Panthers on top. Back-to-back Elmira penalties finally caught up with them late in the period, as Lorna Gifis '05 found herself alone on the doorstep and banged home her own rebound to give the Panthers a 2-0 lead after the first. Yale-Loehr was credited with her second assist of the night on the goal.

Middlebury spent seemingly the entire second period on the power play and dominated play with the advantage. The Soaring Eagles, who were much bigger and more physical than the Panthers, took three minor penalties and one major in the period. Abby Kurtz Phelan '07 took the brunt of one hit, and was down on the ice for several minutes before being helped off by the Panther medical staff. Despite all the power play time,

See Semi's, page 26

Skiers seventh overall

By Sean Breen
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Nordic and Alpine ski teams headed out to Donner Summit, Calif. to compete against 23 of the nation's top Division-I collegiate ski programs. After such a dominant season in the East, the Panther's were determined to test their skills at the national level. Middlebury finished an impressive seventh.

Jessica Smith '05 led the women's Alpine team in the slalom event. Smith finished fourth overall with a time of 1:24.13, two seconds off the winning pace set by Pia Rivelsrud of Denver University. Lindsay Brush '07, who won her first event last week, didn't miss a beat finishing 13th with a time of 1:26.13 at her first ever NCAA championship event. Laura Scripture '04 finished out her collegiate career with a strong 16th place finish (1:26.42.)

The men were equally strong. David Coriell '06 headed the team, finishing 13th overall with a time of 1:16.99, a mere two seconds behind Paul McDonald of Dartmouth. John Rusten '04 was close behind in 16th (1:17.78), followed by fellow senior Fred Emich in 17th (1:17.78).

Moving to giant slalom, the women were again led by Smith, who finished seventh with a time of 2:00.22, only 1.04 seconds off the winner Jennifer Idelich of the University of New Mexico. Brush demonstrated that she's well balanced, finishing 12th (2:01.10) and Scripture closed with a 24th place finish (2:03.30).

Emich led the Panthers' male squadron with a 13th place finish (1:54.21), two seconds off the leader Ben Thronhill of the University of Utah. Coriell, finished off an impressive championship just behind Emich in 14th (1:54.26). Rusten closed for the Panthers in 19th (1:55.04).

It was an impressive showing for the Alpine team who may have been overshadowed a touch all season by the dominance of the Nordic squad. Middlebury finished second overall in Alpine — an accomplishment not to be overlooked. "The races went pretty well," commented Alpine Coach Forest Carey. "We did pretty well and finished second. They don't really give any awards for that though." Awards or no awards, the strong showing comes in Carey's first year as head coach.

The altitude, 7,260 feet, seemed to hinder the Nordic team. The University of Vermont Catamounts, along with some other Eastern schools, headed out directly following the Middlebury Carnival on February 28th, but the Panthers could not because of scholastic commitments. Unfortunately, Middlebury's team did not have the time to acclimate properly, and it showed in

See Altitude, page 26